



Connecting people to CONSERVATION

2012 Annual Report



Washington State
Conservation Commission

Promises Made, Promises Kept

Front Cover Design:
Megan Finkenbinder, SCC Staff

The Mission of the Washington State Conservation Commission is...

to lead the citizens of the state in
the wise stewardship,
conservation, and protection of
soil, water, and related natural
resources.

Since 1939, the Conservation Commission has been recognized as the independent and trusted agency of choice that implements incentive-based stewardship in partnership with local conservation districts, other agencies, and organizations to achieve measureable improvements in state natural resources while maintaining economically viable agriculture.

Our 2012 Annual Report, *Connecting People to Conservation*, provides a snapshot of the services provided by SCC and conservation districts. Over the past several years, SCC and the conservation districts have faced a very tough budget situation but continued to exceed expectations in fulfilling their missions.

SCC Core Functions

- Provide assistance to conservation district supervisors in carrying out their programs to promote conservation of natural resources.
- Inform conservation districts of the activities and experiences of other conservation districts, and disseminate this information statewide.
- Review agreements between conservation districts and other entities.
- Encourage cooperation and collaboration of state, federal, regional, tribal, interstate, and local public and private agencies and secure their assistance with conservation districts.
- Recommend funding packages necessary to finance the activities of SCC and districts and administer resulting funds.
- Assist conservation districts in obtaining legal services from state and local legal officers.
- Review budgets, administrative procedures, and operation of conservation districts, and advise the districts concerning their conformance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Require annual reports, annual plans, and long range plans from conservation districts.

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Before and after the SW Area Flood in December, 2007. 61 acres of debris removal. Photo Courtesy: Lewis County Conservation District.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Fred Colvin,
Chair

Having just completed the WACD area meetings, I am once again impressed by all the good work of conservation districts in getting conservation on the ground. The dedication and passion of CD supervisors and staff is evident throughout the year. Folks in the state **legislature and the Governor's office continue to support district work as shown by the** funding provided for district projects. The supplemental capital budget of \$5 million, and funding for work in the Chehalis watershed demonstrate that districts are the ones that get it done on the ground.

However, we do have our challenges. Some are questioning the effectiveness of BMPs, or of the ability of CDs to reach a broad cross section of landowners. I believe that if we can get a large proportion of a watershed to participate in conservation practices that a true, measureable improvement in water quality will result. There are examples across the state that demonstrates the success of our work when a large proportion of the landowners participate in conservation. We just need to do more of this. I believe that in order to improve effectiveness of our work, we will have to focus our resources and reach out to all the landowners in a watershed. I believe that Conservation Districts and the Conservation Commission have a responsibility and obligation to engage landowners to enhance the natural resources of the state.

Obviously, we will also face challenges this coming year with state budget appropriations. While we have many supporters in the legislature, they will have to make difficult budget decisions. We need to continue to send our message to them about the work we do, and the work that needs to be done.

Thank you for your support during the last two years that I have served as Chair of the Commission. The job was made easier knowing it is in support of districts and the work they do.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Mark Clark,
Executive Director

Reflecting on the last year, I am reminded of the tremendous amount of accomplishment and success achieved by conservation district supervisors, staff and commission staff. Things are moving so fast and as a result, we forget to take time to celebrate the achievements of all those involved in the conservation family.

I am pleased to present this 2012 Annual Report. The publishing of this report is a tremendous **opportunity to again tell "our" story. My pride comes from reading this report and being able to** confidently say, the promises we made, were promises we kept. This could not have been done without the hard work of each and every one of you.

A few of the highlights the past 12 months include: amending and updating the conservation district Good Governance process; the development of the 13-15 biennial budget; and District Administrative Efficiencies.

The Good Governance process has been a tremendous undertaking and I am so pleased with the outcome. Starting from a small group of volunteers, to the conservation district comments, and ultimate approval by the Conservation Commission members, this has been a very open process. The result is a clearly defined process and with a published timeline with expectations and accountability. It will be interesting to monitor the outcomes of this process and report to you the improvements next year.

Every two years, Office of Financial Management issues budget development instructions to state agencies for the next biennium. This is a very comprehensive, arduous process, and is not for the faint of heart. I would like to recognize the work of the Commission staff and conservation districts for putting together a strong message of what needs done in this state to reach the goals of our **state's leadership in conserving and preserving Washington State's natural resources.**

I would like to recognize the 47 conservation districts in Washington State. Over the past couple of years, the Conservation Commission has been tasked by the Legislature to encourage **"administrative efficiencies" among districts. This wasn't always an easy conversation between the** Conservation Commission members and districts. However, with the hard work of the Commission staff and conservation district personnel, I am extremely pleased at the progress of this work and look forward to continuing it into the future.

Thank you all for your support of the work conservation districts and the Conservation Commission do. I am excited about the future work of the Conservation Districts and Conservation **Commission. Now let's get out there and put some conservation on the ground!**

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS

Governor Appointed



Lynn Bahrych, was appointed by Governor Gary Locke in 2004. She is a past chair of SCC. She holds a Masters Degree in English Education and a Ph.D. in Medieval Renaissance Literature as well as a J.D. from the U.W. Law School.



Jim Peters, Vice-Chair was appointed by Governor Gary Locke in 1998. Jim is a member of the Squaxin Island Tribe and has served on the Tribal Council for six plus years. He is currently the Habitat Policy Analyst at the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission.

Conservation Commission Member Terms

Governor appointed members serve four-year terms.

Washington Association of Conservation Districts representatives serve three-year terms.

Washington Association of Conservation Districts President serves a two-year term, or as elected by the WACD membership.

Agency representatives serve at the discretion of the director of their agency.

Washington Association of Conservation Districts Area Representatives



Fred Colvin, Chair, represents the Western Region. He is past President of WACD and he is currently on the board of the Thurston Conservation District where he serves as Secretary/Treasurer.



Lynn Brown, represents the Central Region. He currently serves as Vice-Chair of the Kittitas Conservation District Board and holds an M.P.A. from Harvard University.



Tracy Eriksen, represents the Eastern Region. He has served as an elected supervisor on the Palouse-Rock Lake Conservation District board for the past 15 years. He holds a B.S. in Agriculture Engineering from WSU.



Dave Guenther, represents the WACD as President. He raises Angus Beef, irrigated and dryland hay and forest products in Klickitat County. Dave serves as a supervisor at the Central Klickitat Conservation District. He graduated from WSU with a degree in Range Science.

Agency Representatives



Josh Baldi represents Director Ted Sturdevant of the Department of Ecology. He joined Ecology as the Special Assistant to the Director in 2005. He received his degree from Washington State University.



Jaclyn Ford represents Dan Newhouse, Director of the Department of Agriculture. Commissioner Ford holds a Master of Science degree from Johns Hopkins University and a JD from the University of Maryland School of Law.



Jim Kropf serves as Assistant Director for Washington State University Extension. He has been a faculty member of WSU since 1979. A Washington native, Jim grew up in Pierce County and has a B.S. and M.S. in Agronomy from Washington State University.

No photo available.

Randy Niessner, represents Peter Goldmark, Commissioner of Public Lands, Department of Natural Resources.

13-15 BIENNIUM BUDGET

In January, 2012 a group of SCC staff were appointed to a Budget Subcommittee. The intent of this group was to develop and coordinate the process for the 13-15 Biennial Budget. Through this process, a concept paper was drafted, submitted to conservation districts for comment, and reviewed by Conservation Commission members.

The basis of the budget build was to utilize an approach asking conservation districts to identify the resources of concern with the associated acres and dollar values necessary to address the natural resource issue. This approach will allow the Conservation Commission to link implementation and measurements to components being tracked through the Local Working Group processes and reporting with USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Services.

This coordinated data collection and reporting allows the state to identify improvements in resources, accurately demonstrate investments, and practices installed.

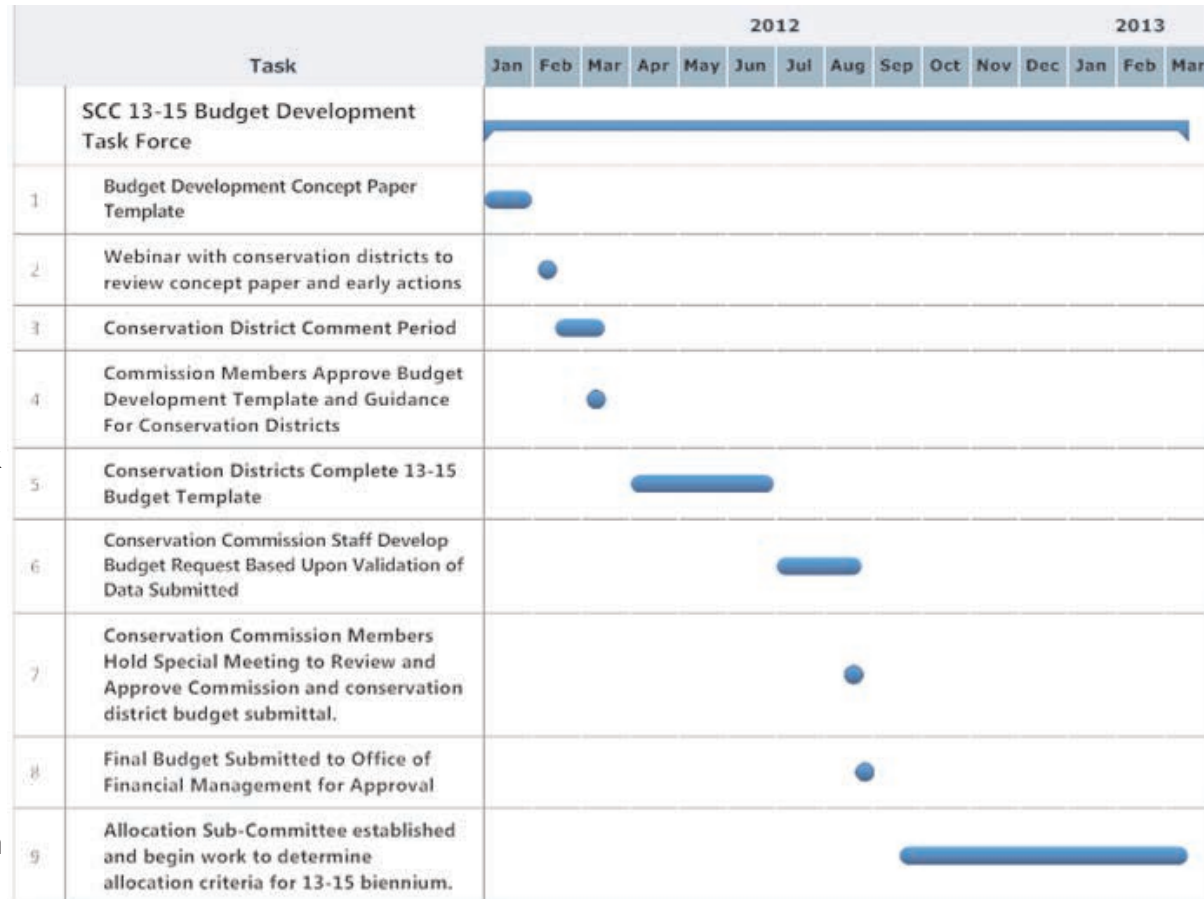
Applications were due from the conservation districts on June 1st. Conservation Commission staff took the district applications and developed the budget request.

These packages were formally adopted and approved by the Commission members on August 24th with the final submittal to the Governor's office and Legislature on August 31st.

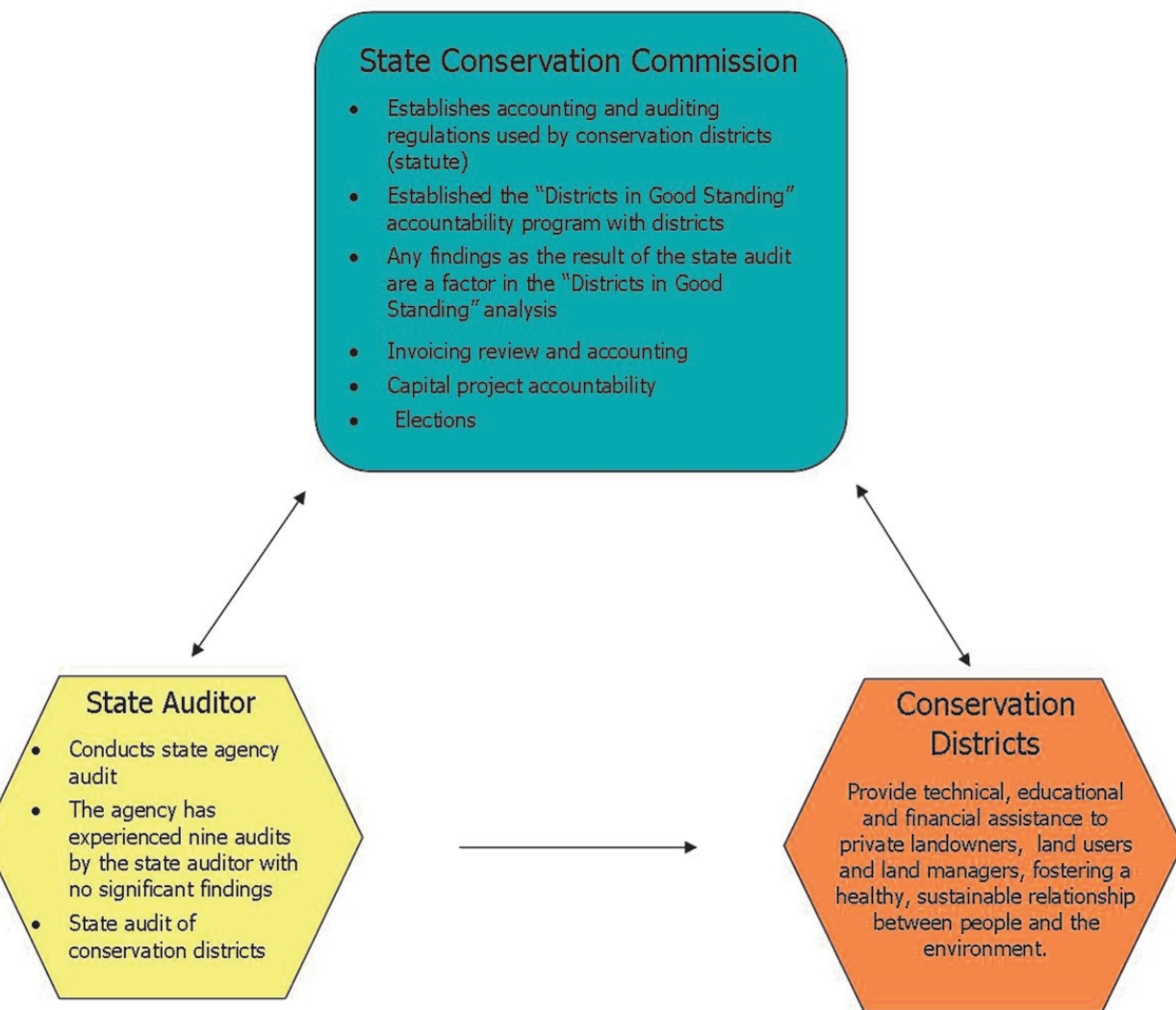
The maintenance level funding for the agency is \$14.280 million. The Operating budget request over and above the maintenance level is \$32.968 million. For the Capital Budget, does not have a maintenance level, so the total request for the 13-15 biennium is \$35.770 million.

Over the next several months, review and authentication of the submittal will occur and final budgets approved by the Legislature in mid-2013.

An allocation committee will be meeting to determine how funding ultimately authorized by the Legislature will be distributed to conservation districts. This is intended to allow for a seamless transition to the new biennium with a more timely decision-making process on the contract dollars available.



ACCOUNTABILITY



The Conservation Commission works to **improve Washington's natural resources** by identifying and addressing natural resource objectives as defined by each conservation district. We do this by ensuring the ability to measure and document long-term conservation implementation and improvement to impacts on our natural resources.

Over the past twelve months, the SCC has implemented or improved several tools for accountability. One key tool is implementation monitoring. SCC and district staff review on-the-ground projects implemented by conservation districts. This review is to ensure rules and standards were followed for the specific projects.

The Commission's "Good Governance" tool is used to evaluate districts on a set of criteria covering fiscal and operational responsibilities. This year it was revised to include a focus on local collaboration and progress on resource objectives.

Finally, the SCC remains committed to working with the State Auditor to continue process improvements for conservation district audits.

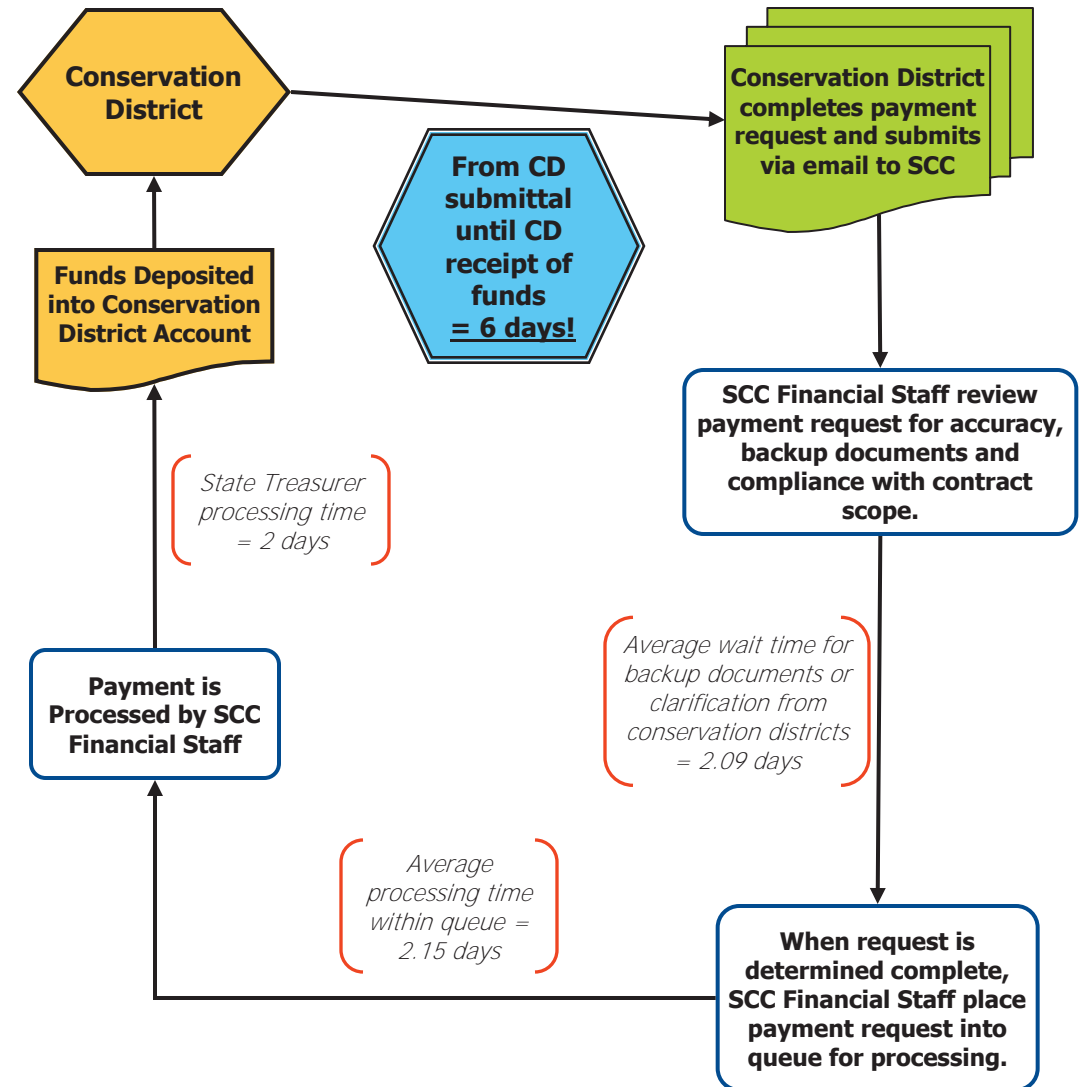
PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Conservation Commission Funding To Conservation Districts

Performance Measure	Fiscal Year 2011	Fiscal Year 2012
Conservation District grant payments	1,634	1,677
Payment processing days	2.05	2.15
Total conservation district payments	\$7.63 million	\$8.197 million
Total practice installation on private lands	249	284
Private landowners with installed practices	313	192
Cost-Share practice payments to landowners	\$933,367	\$577,604
Independent contracts with SCC	13	19
Independent contract value	\$3,486,870	\$6.5 million

Fiscal Year	Number of Payment Requests from conservation districts	Conservation Commission Processing Time (3 FTEs)
FY09	1355	2.25 days
FY10	1763	2.24 days
FY11	1634	2.05 days
FY12	1677	2.15 days

Conservation Commission Payment Processing for Conservation Districts



SPENDING

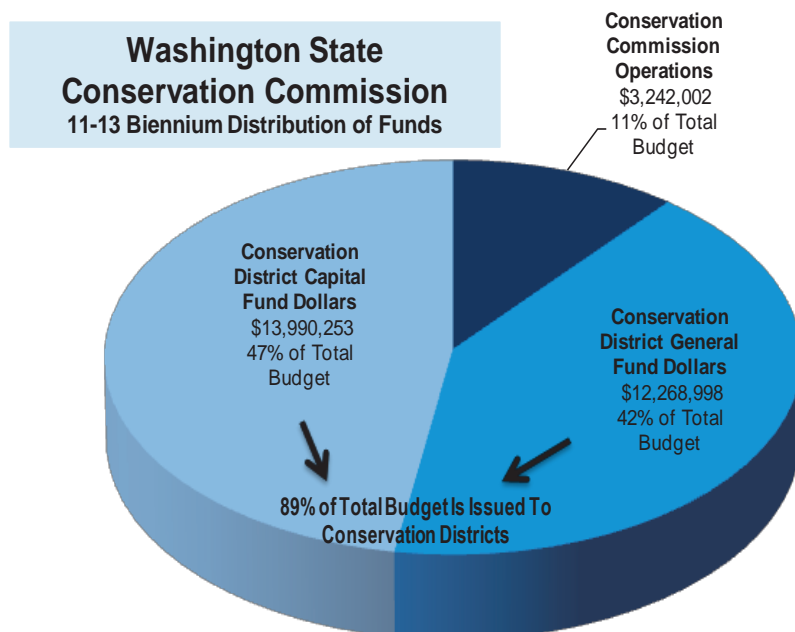
The Conservation Commission budget supports the operations of the Commission including the expenses related to the Commission Board; Commission Staff; and **agency operations**. The majority of funding continues to be distributed to the state's conservation districts across the state for a variety of program. The chart below shows the distribution of funds for the biennium. Of the total funding managed by the Conservation Commission, 89% is distributed to conservation districts for conservation district operations, technical assistance, and best management practice installation.

The table below covers the breakdown of expenditures by the Conservation Commission for the last seven biennium. The average annual FTEs includes the FTEs allotted through the operating and capital budgets. The FTEs allotted through the capital budget have not changed for several biennium, and remain at three. However, the operating budget FTEs have experienced the most dramatic changes in the allotments by the Legislature and currently stand at 17 FTEs for the biennium.

Objects of expenditures cover the major categories utilized by all state agencies.

- Salaries and Wages and Employee Benefits include Commission staff and Commission member compensation.
- Personal Service Contracts are defined as independent contracts reviewed and approved by Office of Financial Management. These include data systems specialists, web, and other miscellaneous contracts. Budget reductions experienced by the Commission have resulted in fewer contracts for services.
- Goods and Services includes general office needs, rent, operations costs, training, mandatory fees from other state agencies, etc.
- Travel is Commission member and staff travel to trainings, conferences like District Employee Training and the Conservation District Annual Meeting. This object includes expenses related to the four motor pool vehicles on lease to the Commission.
- Grants, Benefits & Client Services is all grant funds awarded to conservation districts, regardless of the funding source.
- Interagency Reimbursements are agreements the Conservation Commission has for other agencies to provided services. A great example of this would the Irrigation Efficiencies program. The Conservation Commission is reimbursed for all staff and operational expenses related to this program by the Department of Ecology.

The facing page illustrates the changes in percentages of the Conservation Commission's budget over the same period.



State Conservation Commission Budget Spending							
Staff/Objects/Funds History - Operating and Capital							
	1999-01	2001-03	2003-05	2005-07	2007-09	2009-11	Budgeted 2011-13
Staffing/Salaries:							
Average Annual FTEs	15	16	14	16	22	19	20
Objects of Expenditure:							
	(Dollars in Thousands)						
Salaries and Wages	1,406	1,601	1,503	1,692	2,647	2,420	
Employee Benefits	308	321	313	427	728	695	
Personal Service Contracts	391	655	4	428	430	236	Not yet
Goods and Services	1,023	1,221	802	849	1,046	937	uploaded
Travel	216	222	174	216	375	281	by state
Capital Outlays	79	197	124	114	185	3	system
Grants, Benefits & Client Services	16,390	23,322	18,905	20,575	24,460	17,907	
Interagency Reimbursements	-756	-2,646	-4,268	-5,616	-5,547	-3,139	
Total Objects	19,057	24,892	17,556	18,685	24,324	19,341	
Source of Funds:							
General Fund-State (001-S)	14,090	19,059	9,582	14,766	16,357	14,031	13,209
State Bldg Constr-State (057-1)	1,732	5,679	7,700	3,630	3,524	2,044	8,277
General Fund-Federal (001-F)	0	10	20	117	528	1,084	2,301
St Tax Bldg Constr-State (355-1)	0	0	0	0	0	1,220	1,000
Conservation Assist-State (552-1)	0	0	253	141	104	266	150
Water Quality Cap-State (11W-1)	0	0	0	0	3,693	667	0
Other Funds	3,236	144	0	31	118	30	0
Total Funds	19,057	24,892	17,556	18,685	24,324	19,341	24,937

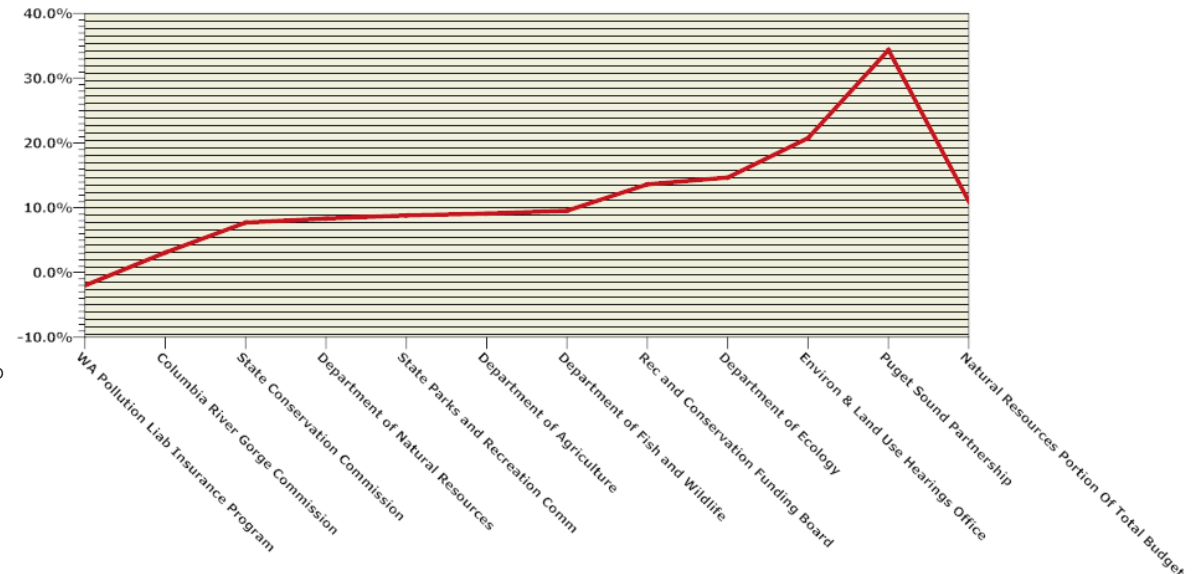
Total Natural Resources Budget and Natural Resources Agency Budgets

The table and graph on this page illustrate the changes in natural resource agency operating and capital budgets from the 99-01 biennium to the current 11-13 biennium. The rankings are based upon the seven biennium (14 year) average.

The Conservation Commission has experienced the third lowest average change in budget at 7.07%. Only the Columbia River Gorge Commission and the Washington Pollution Liability Insurance Program has seen less growth in their overall budget.

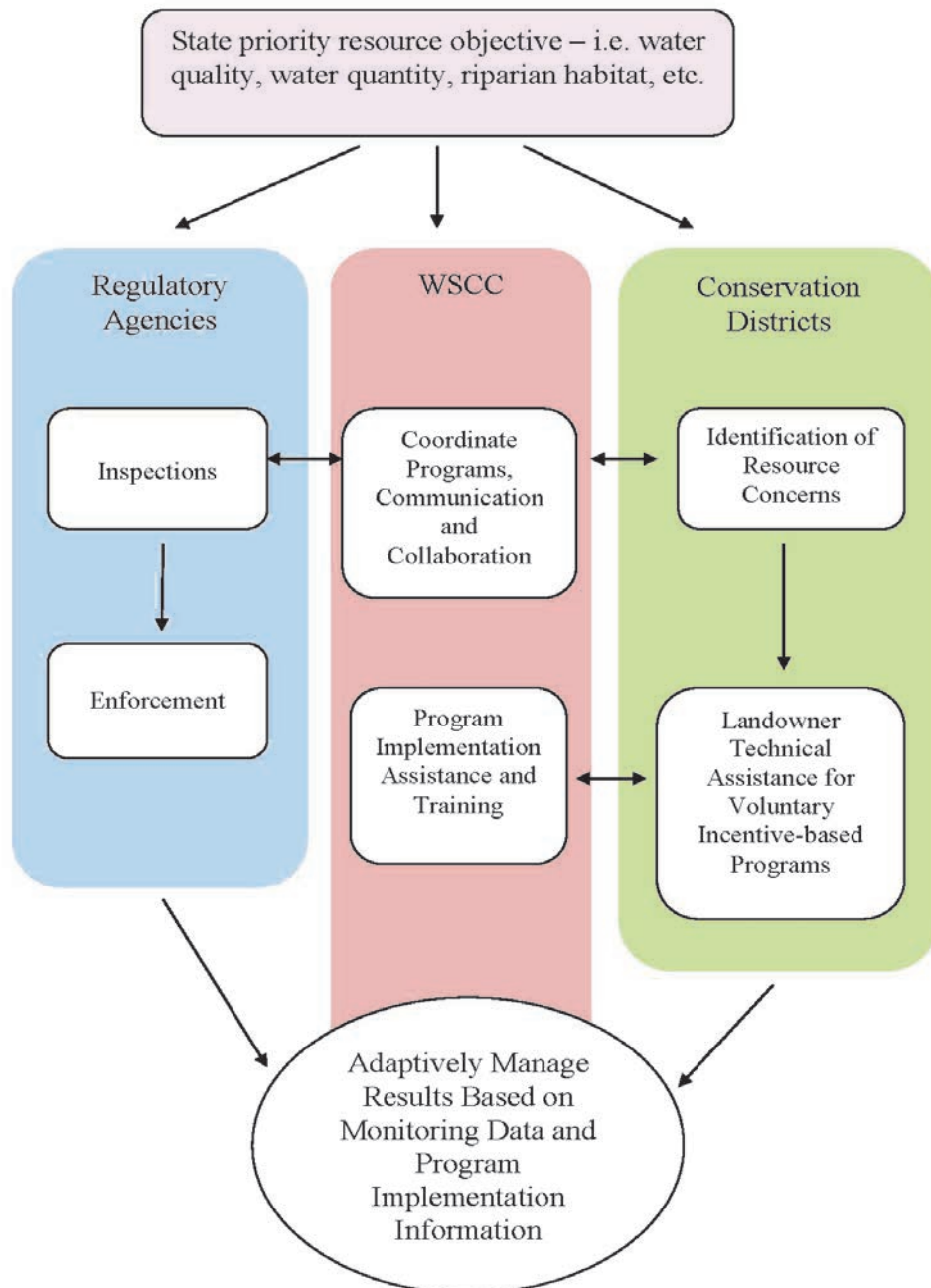
The 11-13 growth for the Conservation Commission is the result of the 2012 Supplemental budget, adding \$5 million for the Jobs program, additional funding for CREP at \$1.27 million, and \$1 million additional federal spending authority. Without the 2012 Supplemental funding, the percentage difference between 09-11 and 11-13, would have been a reduction of 8.7%. Resulting in an average change over the seven biennium of only a 1.43% increase.

Percent Change in Natural Resource Agency Budgets from 99-01 through 11-13



State of Washington Operating & Capital Budget Comparisons by Natural Resources Agency							
In Order of Average Percentage Change Over 7 Biennium							
Natural Resource Agency	% difference 99-01 vs 01-03	% difference 01-03 vs 03-05	% difference 03-05 vs 05-07	% difference 05-07 vs 07-09	% difference 07-09 vs 09-11	% difference 09-11 vs 11-13	Average Change Over 7 Biennium (14 years)
WA Pollution Liab Insurance Program	0.30%	-25.23%	6.49%	8%	-16.55%	14.89%	-2.02%
Columbia River Gorge Commission	-4.39%	-9.17%	39.32%	14.61%	-16.75%	-5.24%	3.06%
State Conservation Commission	30.62%	-29.47%	6.43%	30.18%	-20.49%	28.93%	7.70%
Department of Natural Resources	3.17%	3.55%	23.59%	8.41%	-14.41%	25.67%	8.33%
State Parks and Recreation Comm	21.69%	8.51%	11.76%	25.53%	-16.26%	1.58%	8.80%
Department of Agriculture	18.31%	-0.15%	22.68%	6.86%	-0.88%	7.69%	9.09%
Department of Fish and Wildlife	3.07%	-2.77%	13.48%	11.60%	-7.42%	39.13%	9.52%
Rec and Conservation Funding Board	34.63%	13.40%	21.18%	7.10%	13.82%	-8.50%	13.61%
Department of Ecology	16.59%	13.74%	16.34%	13.98%	-1.26%	28.55%	14.66%
Environ & Land Use Hearings Office	-2.95%	17.51%	8.80%	7.57%	-7.29%	100.84%	20.75%
Puget Sound Partnership	0.91%	14.24%	22.08%	87.80%	-9.79%	90.90%	34.36%
Natural Resources Portion Of Total Budget	12.13%	6.12%	17.86%	12.48%	-5.66%	22.80%	10.96%

THE CONSERVATION SYSTEM



The system for conserving our state's natural resources consists of two major parts: the regulatory system and the incentive-based system.

These two elements must work together to accomplish resource protection and enhancement in a way that engages landowners while achieving results. In this time of limited budgets and staff, agencies and conservation districts must emphasize improved coordination of efforts.

As the diagram shows, the role of the Conservation Commission is to assist in this process by coordinating programs and encouraging collaboration. The Commission also provides the mechanism for accountability for fiscal outcomes and resource objectives.

Based on these results, the system is adaptively managed to ensure continual process improvement.

Our ultimate objective is the protection, restoration and enhancement of our natural resources in a manner that maintains viable working lands for future generations.

RCW 89.08.070—Duties and Responsibilities of the Commission

(6) To encourage the cooperation and collaboration of state, federal, regional, interstate and local public and private agencies with the conservation districts, and facilitate arrangements under which the conservation districts may serve county governing bodies and other agencies as their local operating agencies in the administration of any activity concerned with the conservation of renewable natural resources.

KEY POLICY INITIATIVES

Commission staff have been very engaged in a variety of processes, work groups, task forces and other activities in an effort to present into these processes the role and value of the Commission and conservation districts. The areas we are currently engaged in include:

Ag and Water Quality – 3 Director Talks (3DT)

The 3DT have continued this year with a focus on answering questions relating to the agencies responsibilities in the areas of BMP implementation and improved coordination at all levels. After many months of discussions, the 3DT have identified two teams to help better define the issues for director level discussion: *Potential to Pollute and Design Specifications for Washington State Water Quality BMPs*: This team is providing greater **definition for “potential to pollute” to enhance both the consistency and confidence of determinations by land owners, technical assistance providers and regulatory inspection staff.** *Improved Watershed Strategy and Local Coordination, Consistency, and Accountability*: This team is an explicit team building exercise among local BMP implementation staff. Scope of work is to co develop, share, and coordinate local deployment priorities and plans; develop joint training that enables a high degree of consistency of approach and messaging among all field staff; clarifies expectations for **implementation monitoring activities consistent with GMAP measure “Nutrient Run Off: Number of water quality BMPs implemented”**; and, establish programmatic feedback mechanisms to gauge and improve performance.

Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)

VSP is an alternative approach to addressing agricultural activities in critical areas under the GMA. The program was developed in a collaborative process engaging counties, the agricultural community, and environmental groups. Under VSP, counties must opt-in to the program. A county not opting in must update their local critical areas ordinance using the traditional GMA approach. This approach leaves the county open to costly appeals if they fail to address agricultural activities. Currently there are 32 counties exempting agriculture from their critical areas ordinance. By the deadline of January 22, 2012 twenty-eight counties had opted-in to VSP.

Commission staff have been working to identify federal funds to implement this program. When passed by the legislature in 2011, no new state funds were provided. The Commission has been implementing the program with existing state resources. However, for full implementation of the program, additional federal and state funds will be needed. No action is required of counties until funds are received.

Salmon Recovery

The Commission is fully engaged in various salmon recovery processes. The Commission is an active member of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Council, and Carol Smith serves on the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) representing the Commission. In this non-voting role she is able to provide comment on various proposed salmon restoration projects and represent the views of the Commission and districts on SRFB policies. The Commission has also shown proactive leadership in working with conservation districts to respond to the Treaty Rights At Risk white paper prepared by the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. The response includes an examination of how the incentive-based system can contribute to salmon recovery.

Stormwater Work Group

Formed largely to address the needs of jurisdictions covered under the new Phase II stormwater permit, this group quickly expanded to address other stormwater related issues including monitoring and non-point stormwater. Carol Smith has been able to get the group to expand their thinking beyond just municipal stormwater and include consideration of how to address non-point stormwater from agricultural lands.

CREATING COLLABORATION

The role of a Commission staff person is not limited to their job title. Our staff are involved in a number of various groups and organizations. Their time and input are valuable to the groups they are involved with. Below are only a few examples:

WACD & NRCS Partnership Activities: Commission staff worked with NRCS and WACD staff this year to improve coordination in program delivery, reporting progress, planning and budgeting, public outreach, natural resource inventories and assessments, training, agreements, public records, work load and work force planning, and Technical Service Provider work. Coordination meetings occur weekly with the directors and quarterly meetings of area and state staff.

Field Office of the Future: At the request of NACD and NRCS Leaders each state was asked to submit a paper on what the field office of the future will look like and serve customer needs into the future. Our paper was submitted with 20 elements of the future conservation program in Washington State. Each element included three sections; what we currently are doing to increase our effectiveness, ideas for improving our effectiveness, and what NACD and NRCS National Headquarters should do to assist our conservation program delivery in Washington State.

Resource Assessment: A statewide natural resource data collection was completed by NRCS for the entire state. From this collection of data a report has been written that provides essential natural resource inventory data (and maps) for each conservation district to complete a county wide natural resource assessment as part of revising districts long range plans in the next three years. The Commission utilized the state resource assessment for work in 13-15 Budget Decision Packets. Local Work Groups also utilized the resource assessment for program direction and priorities.

District Technical Service Providers: Conservation Districts have continued to enter into task order agreements with the Commission for Farm Bill program delivery work funded by NRCS. A 50%-50% statewide agreement provided for NRCS and State of Washington funding for task order implementation on various Farm Bill programs by seventeen conservation districts throughout the state; another six districts did work on CRP field checks. The total value of work exceeded \$800,000. A new statewide agreement is being developed for the next year of task orders.

Coordinated Resource Management (CRM): Commission staff provided support for startups of four new CRM groups, three in the Chehalis Basin and one in Cowlitz Creek. Follow-up assistance to existing CRM groups was provided. A training session for advanced facilitation was planned and provided for 27 participants from 12 different agencies and organizations.

OUTREACH SERVICES

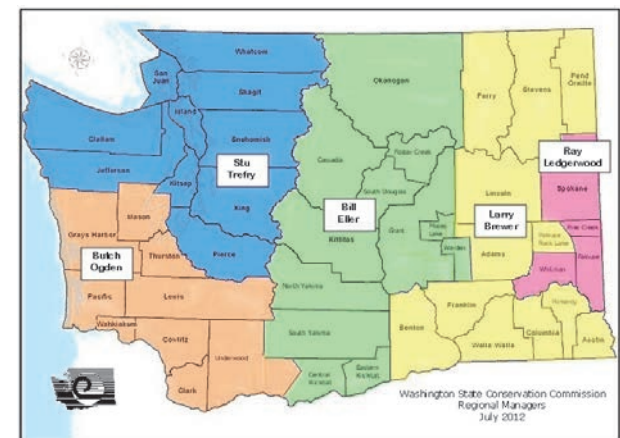
The Commission's Conservation District Operations Services staff provide high quality services based on the input of Conservation District Supervisors and Managers from district meetings, and improvements to NetMeeting and Webinar technology. Planned services include:

- Develop avenues and relationships to increase funding for local conservation projects based on the information contained in district five-year and annual plans of work as well as the projects entered in the state Conservation Practice Data System (CPDS) by meeting with state and federal agencies and non-government organizations – emphasis on jobs created and maintained.
- Continue facilitation assistance where high priority natural resource and “people” issues exist.
- Development of high quality training opportunities for Supervisors and technical district employees including working with WADE leaders.
- Complete agreement with NRCS for combined \$1.5 million technical service provider funds.
- Work on developing stronger partnerships with state and federal agencies and non-government organizations to increase funding resources, shared resources and coordination of programs.
- Assistance to conservation districts wanting to do a county-wide resource assessment with NRCS as part of an update to their long range plan.

Accomplishments

This year's major accomplishments for Commission Regional Managers include:

- Revised the Good Governance Process and Checklist and began assisting districts in meeting the level of performance outlined in that process.
- Commission staff have worked with NRCS to complete the development of a revised Cooperative Agreement that has a Master Agreement with Addendums suited for each conservation district/field office need.
- Provided facilitation assistance to districts on revisions to long range plans, development of annual plans of work, district reorganization and/or consolidation, and relationships with landowners and partners.
- Provided facilitation assistance to seven USDA Local Work Groups in the development of natural resource priorities for Farm Bill programs.



OFFICE OF FARMLAND PRESERVATION

Farmland Preservation Task Force - Policy Statement on Farmland Preservation

Agriculture resources should be a high priority in Washington, equal to other issues in the state. Agriculture resources include the land, water, and energy necessary for profitable agricultural activity.



Conservation Easements
Information for Conservation District supervisors and managers

What exactly is a conservation easement?

A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement wherein a landowner agrees to sell or donate certain rights associated with his or her property – often the right to subdivide – and a private organization or public agency agrees to hold the right to enforce the landowner's promise not to exercise those rights. Conservation easements are generally purchased by a government entity or land trust to protect a property that has significant agricultural, historic, scenic and/or wildlife resources. The landowner is known as the Grantor and the recipient is the Grantee. An easement selectively targets only those rights necessary to protect specific conservation values.

Agricultural conservation easements allow the Grantor to retain private ownership and use of the property for agricultural purposes. Landowners may choose to retain a portion of the development rights in order to provide future home sites for their family or farm workers. They may also retain rights to develop agricultural buildings or infrastructure important for long-term economic viability of the farming operation. All easements are tailored to suite the landowner's specific circumstances.

Agricultural conservation easements protect a family's farmland from being lost to future non-agricultural development. They may be used as an estate planning tool to help landowners successfully pass farms on to the next generation, or to sell their farm to another farmer at an affordable price. In short, agricultural conservation easements keep farmland available for farming.

WWRP Farmland Preservation Grants

The Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) farmland preservation grant program administered by the Recreation and Conservation Office, provides funding to buy development rights on farlands.

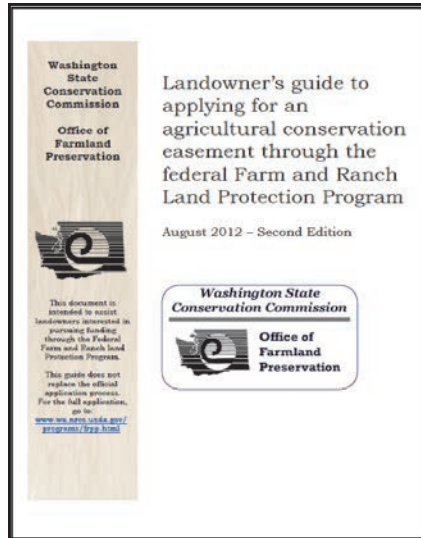
Entities eligible to apply for this funding include cities, counties, non-profit organizations, and SCC. Districts are not eligible to independently apply, but can partner with any eligible entity. There is no cap on the amount of funding an entity can request. All entities are required to provide a 50% match for the total project cost excluding the Commission if partnering with a non-eligible entity.

Grant Year	Total Project Costs	Acres	Number of Projects
2006 - 2008	\$14,987,246	7,969.5	39
2010*	\$11,388,521*	8,540*	24*

2006-2008 = Funded WWRP Farmland Preservation projects
*2010 = Ranked and evaluated projects prepared for funding

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"Conservation easements can be used as an estate planning tool to help landowners successfully pass farms on to the next generation."



Washington State Conservation Commission
Office of Farmland Preservation

Landowner's guide to applying for an agricultural conservation easement through the federal Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program

August 2012 - Second Edition

This document is intended to assist landowners interested in pursuing funding through the Federal Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program. This guide does not replace the official application process. For the full application, go to: www.wa.nps.usda.gov/programs/frpp.html

Washington State Conservation Commission
Office of Farmland Preservation

Key Initiatives

- Work with stakeholders and assessor community to develop legislation aimed at supporting small farms.
- Support SCC's role in Food System Roundtable.
- Increase funding for farmland preservation efforts in Washington.
- Broaden impact of conservation easements in Yakima County.

Accomplishments for 2012:

- Participated in Governor Gregoire's food policy group.
- Received USDA grant for \$86,000 to develop a succession planning workbook and conduct several trainings and workshops for specialty crop growers in Washington.
- Continued outreach through OFP e-letter, trade fairs and conferences.
- Worked with stakeholders on statewide legislation aimed at protecting small farms.
- Convened statewide farmland preservation advocates meeting.
- Sponsored application for 4,516 acre agricultural conservation easement in partnership with North Yakima Conservation District (\$2,200,000). Ranked 3 of 22.
- Concluded environmental markets demand analysis for the Yakima Basin Clean Water Partnership.

What we're working on in 2013:

- Develop workbook for succession planning with legal review team.
- Develop training workshops for professionals for 2014 as part of USDA grant.
- Release Farmland Preservation indicators second report
- Continue developing relationships with stakeholders to identify areas of opportunity that would support preserving farms in Washington.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT



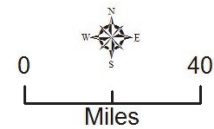
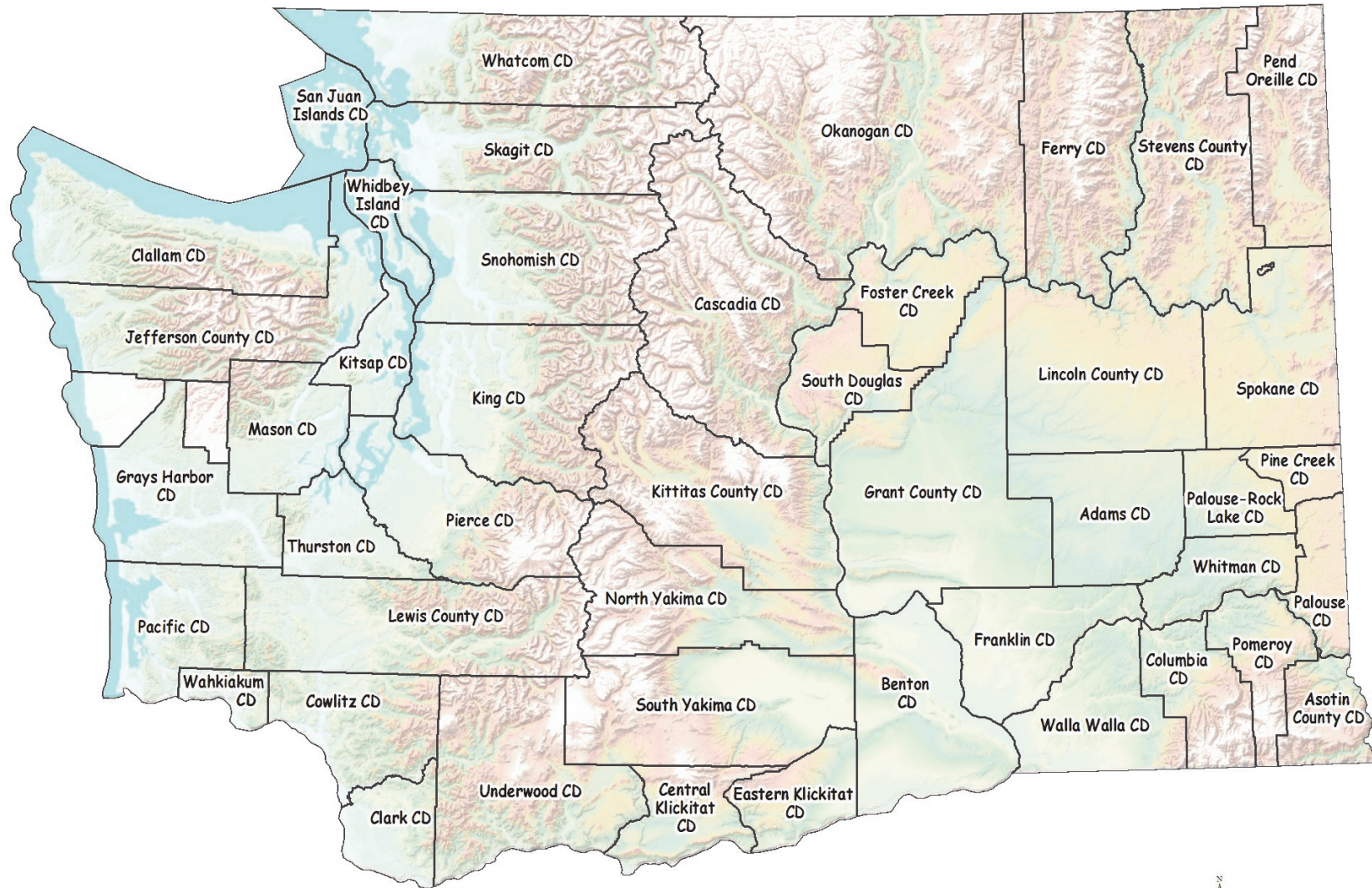
Conservation Districts are a unique form of non-regulatory government, they match local resource needs with technical and financial resources to help landowners with “on-the-ground” conservation projects. Chapter 89.08 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) is the enabling statute for conservation district work in Washington and was adopted by the legislature in 1939.

Each conservation district is directed by a five-member board of supervisors. Three members are elected locally, and at least two of the three elected supervisors must be landowners or operators of a farm. Two members are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission, and at least one must be a landowner or operate a farm.

For more information about local conservation districts and their boards, visit www.scc.wa.gov.

The following pages contain the annual reports submitted by **Washington’s 47 conservation districts**. **These reports provide the** district the opportunity to show great conservation projects being implemented in their local areas. They also include the current Board of Supervisors for each district.

ANNUAL REPORTS



This data is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind. Further, the WACD does not warrant, guarantee, or make any representations regarding the use of, or results from the use of the data in terms of correctness, accuracy, reliability, currentness, or otherwise.

Adams Conservation District



State Legislative District #9
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments



Adams CD enjoys coordinating the 5th Grade Field Day at WSU's Lind Dryland Research Station.



We are proud to sponsor a 6th grade essay writing contest.



The Adams County FFA I and

2012 Feature Accomplishments

Livestock Watering

Resource Challenge

Implementation of livestock exclusionary fencing along our waterways is essential to improving and protecting water quality. Since cattle are unable to regularly access waterways once fencing is installed, operators are looking for alternative water resources.

Project Summary

In 2012 Adams CD supported the implementation of off-stream watering sites for a land owner along the Palouse River. Using solar power, water was pumped from an existing well into troughs located within the grazing area. Currently over 2.5 miles of exclusionary fencing and 2 off-stream watering sites have been installed on this project. Next year an additional 2.5 miles of fencing and supplemental watering sites will be installed.



Windbreak

Resource Challenge

Conserving soil in a dryland farming environment that receives little precipitation and lots of wind is difficult.

Project Summary

This year we had the privilege of working with a proactive conservation family in our County that were interested in installing a windbreak on the border of their homestead. The fields around them are coming out of CRP and their location receives wind gust up to 60+ mph. The site had limited space for planting, so 2 staggered rows were installed using Rocky Mtn. Juniper and Colorado Blue Spruce. A drip system was also installed to help plants establish and survive during dry months. Planting strategy and tree health will be monitored to determine the suitability of these species as options in our area for establishing successful windbreaks. WSCC funded this demonstration windbreak.



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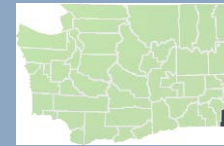
Curtis Hennings, Chair
Dennis Swinger, Vice-Chair
Emmitt Cain, Treasurer
Ron Hennings, Secretary
Michael Broeckel, Member

More Work To Do

Soil: Wind erosion is a large issue in Adams County. Several thousand acres are being released from the CRP Program over the next few years. Adams CD plans to provide operators with conservation management options that will continue to focus on reducing soil erosion.

Water: Our efforts to protect and restore water quality in Cow Creek and the Palouse River continue in partnership with Department of Ecology.

Asotin County Conservation District



State Legislative District #9
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments

- Over \$483,000 was provided in cost-share to improve & conserve natural resources by installing BMPs.
- Created a DVD/CD highlighting projects demonstrating the resource benefits achieved by implementing BMPs.
- Developed Tips for Small Landowners booklet.



Asotin County has one of the highest percentages in the state for acres in direct seed.



Water Development project



Forestry Tour

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Forestry Project

Resource Challenge –

In 2008 Asotin County adopted a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). A big part of this plan identifies the need for fuels reduction practices in timber areas. By implementing fuels reduction treatments and improvements fire size, intensity and behavior is modified, and fire fighter response is improved; thereby reducing risks to lives, homes, infrastructure and natural resources. The challenge was to implement fuels reduction practices (thinning, pruning, chipping and/or mastication of slash, hand piling and burning, and prescribed under burns on 450 treatment acres on 150 footprint acres.



Fuels Reduction Project
Before Implementation



Forestry Slash Pile

Project Summary and Results –

Asotin County Conservation District received a grant from WA Department of Natural Resources and developed and implemented a Forestry Cost-Share Program to assist landowners with their fuel reduction efforts. To date, a total of 17 landowners have participated in this program and we have provided over \$69,000 in cost-share.

Key Project Partners –

Partners include Asotin Co. Conservation District, WA Department of Natural Resources, WA State Conservation Commission, Natural Resources Conservation Service and the landowners



Fuels Reduction Project
After Implementation

Contact Information

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Board of Supervisors:

Keith Ausman, Chair
Levi Luhn, Vice-Chair
Jerry Hendrickson, Auditor
Ron Scheibe, Secretary
Rod Hostetler, Member

More Work To Do

- Provide outreach & education efforts targeting both students and adults: Salmon in the Classroom, workshops, Envirothon, tours
- Continue stream temperature monitoring
- Actively seek additional funding opportunities to achieve our natural resource goals
- Continue providing technical and financial assistance to landowners to put good conservation projects on the ground

Benton Conservation District



State Legislative District #8, 16
Congressional District #4

Other Accomplishments

Spring 2012 Air Quality Tour

The Benton and Franklin Conservation District's Air Quality Tour in April brought together air quality regulators, conservation organizations and the agricultural community. Participants learned about and viewed proactive measures being implemented in Benton County to address windblown dust and other air quality issues.



Yakima River Restoration a Success for Salmon

The Benton Conservation District with funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has been conducting a water stargrass removal project in the Yakima River. Over 30 fall Chinook salmon redds were photographed in the project site this past year.



2012 Feature Accomplishment

Heritage Gardens Promote Urban Water Conservation

Resource Challenge

Benton Conservation District (BCD) wanted to promote urban water conservation by encouraging landowners to use native, low-water use plants in landscaping but the concept never really took off until BCD partnered with their local chapter of the Native Plant Society to re-tool and re-branded the concept into what we now call the Heritage Garden Program.

Project Summary and Results

Heritage Gardens are landscaped areas designed to honor the cultural and natural heritage of the Columbia River Basin while utilizing sustainable gardening practices. The program provides technical assistance, an interactive native plant database and spring and fall workshops to assist landowners with designing and implementing Heritage Gardens. Gardens that meet program criteria can be certified by the district. Certified gardens receive a yard sign acknowledging their accomplishment. Since the program launched in the spring of 2012 five gardens have been certified by the district as meeting the Heritage Garden criteria. Workshops on Heritage Garden topics have been extremely popular with 80+ residents in attendance at each workshop. Four individuals were employed in the completion of this project.

Key Project Partners – Columbia Basin Chapter Washington Native Plant Society, Xerces, Franklin Conservation District, Umatilla County Soil and Water Conservation District, Wildhorse Foundation, Washington State Conservation Commission.

Certified Heritage Gardens in Benton County, WA



Contact Information

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www.bentoncd.org

Board of Supervisors:

Jack Clark, Chair
Dan Downs, Vice-Chair
Mike Sackschewsky, Auditor
Michael Crowder, Member
Nicole Berg, Member

More Work To Do

The South Central RC&D in partnership with the Benton Conservation District was recently awarded an NRCS Washington Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG). The grant will look at the feasibility of calibrating the Nutrient Tracking Tool (NTT) for use in the Yakima Valley. NTT will be tested to see if it will fit into the framework for the new ecosystems marketing program for central Washington.

Benton CD is also actively participating in the Lower Yakima Valley Groundwater Management Area Advisory Committee.

Cascadia Conservation District



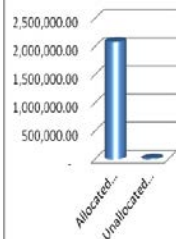
State Legislative District #12
Congressional District #4

Other Accomplishments

Through Conservation Commission programs, Cascadia's archaeology staff provided cultural resources investigations and reporting to our Natural Resources Conservation Service partners as well as to other Conservation Districts in our area. We also helped landowners with technical assistance and cost share to improve farm operations, water conservation and delivery efficiencies, and wildlife habitat.

Stream monitoring, irrigation wells, water intake and fish passage structures, instream habitat, floodplain reconnection, riparian restoration, livestock exclusion fencing, conservation outreach and education, wildfire fuels reduction, river cleanup projects, fish habitat project effectiveness studies, and project planning and development were supported by other funding. In all, Cascadia worked on more than 60 projects during the year.

General funds were less than 1% of the overall budget. Over \$2 million, or 15,427% of our basic funding, was used for projects. At least \$ in economic impact was realized as a result of this grant-funded work.



2012 Feature Accomplishment

Riparian Restoration

Numerous project partners, five local landowners, and a full mile of stream bank restored to date

The Entiat Riparian Project – A Long Term Commitment to Habitat Restoration

Cascadia Conservation District and numerous project partners have joined forces to protect Endangered Species and improve water quality within the Entiat River sub-basin.



Entiat River site, before planting

Furthering Watershed Recovery Efforts – One Mile at a Time – This year five Entiat River landowners teamed up with Cascadia and partners to restore more than a mile of continuous river bank. These projects will address water quality, fish, and wildlife habitat concerns by repairing the ecosystem functions associated with native plant communities. Other benefits of riparian restoration include: bank stabilization to reduce erosion and sediment delivery to the river system, shading to reduce water temperature, spray drift buffers, and flood attenuation, as well as nutrients and cover for salmonids. However, it can take 5 to 20 years to realize the full benefits of riparian plantings. Effectively restoring and enhancing riparian areas are objectives defined in the Water Resource Inventory Area 46 Management Plan and Detailed Implementation Plan by the Entiat Watershed Planning Unit.

In addition to planting native shrubs, trees and grasses, weed control measures and livestock exclusion fencing were utilized to reduce plant competition and erosion in the riparian area. Each site plan was adapted to the landowner's needs for intended use. Crop production and desired condition as well as the specific soils, landscape features and availability of irrigation to establish plant growth were taken into consideration so that these efforts produce maximum benefit to both citizens and the resource.

These projects illustrate the successful collaboration ongoing in Chelan County to assist landowners with their resource needs as well as to restore and protect water quality and habitat for the benefit of all concerned.



Plants with browse protection, Entiat River restoration site Fall 2011. This grant, a small portion of our overall work, generated .79 jobs in FY 2012.

Key Project Partners – Project site landowners
Entiat Watershed Planning Unit
Bonneville Power Administration

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Board of Supervisors:

Josh Koempel, Chair
Hal Hawley, Vice-Chair
Roger Wristen, Auditor
Frank Andrews, Member
Jim Bartelme, Member

More Work To Do

Additional needs in Chelan County for which funding is limited:

- ❖ Upland habitat, urban and general resource restoration, especially technical assistance and cost share for landowners
- ❖ Non-salmon stream restoration, fish habitat, riparian revegetation and water quality protection
- ❖ Wildfire site restoration, flood prevention & protection, Firewise Community support and wildfire fuels reduction
- ❖ Education & Outreach through media, publications, events & landowner contacts

Central Klickitat Conservation District



State Legislative District #15 (14)
Congressional District #4 (3)

Other Accomplishments

That's not snow, that's ash!



Central Klickitat Conservation District was instrumental in assisting landowners after the Monastery Fire and Wishram 2 Fires in summer 2011. Over 15,000 acres of erosion-susceptible land was burned. CKCD provided cost share to replant over 12,000 trees and to replace fences and defer grazing on burnt rangeland.



The District developed and presented a Realtor's Workshop where area realtors were shown how district activities can benefit landowners with property on streams. Realtors earned continuing education credits.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Little Klickitat River TMDL Implementation Plan.

Resource Challenge – The Little Klickitat River has a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for elevated temperatures. The challenge to lower water temperatures has been the focus of the District for the past several years. Engineers have designed and implemented 3 in-stream projects in the Little Klickitat River and Swale Creek, also a Category 5 stream. During summer 2012 we stabilized 1,800 of stream bank on the Little Klickitat and 2,500 feet of stream on a tributary to Swale Creek.



Project Summary and Results – The TMDL is an ongoing, long term program. To date, CKCD has implemented twelve projects on the Little Klickitat and its tributaries, with three more undergoing design to be implemented next year. These projects are designed by District Cluster Engineers with components for stream bank repair, fish habitat and stream shading. The Detailed Implementation Plan for the TMDL states that all of these Best Management Practices are required elements for implementation of the plan to lower the stream temperature in the Little Klickitat River. In May of 2005, the WRIA 30 Management Plan was completed. This plan included the implementation of the Total Maximum Daily Load Detailed Implementation Plan as a priority action item. All of our in-stream projects on the Little Klickitat River address actions identified in the watershed management plan. Swale Creek is now listed on the 303(d) list as a Category 5 stream. The District is working with Ecology and Klickitat County on a Straight to Implementation (STI) Plan in lieu of a TMDL.

Key Project Partners – Central Klickitat Conservation District has several partners in the TMDL process. Most important are the willing landowners that cooperate by approaching the District about their water quality problems and allow us to design solutions. We have excellent working relationships with Klickitat County Natural Resources and Commissioners, the City of Goldendale, Department of Ecology which funds most of our in stream work, WDFW for permitting, Army Corps of Engineers for permitting, and Yakama Nation Fisheries, who help with project identification.

Contact Information

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Board of Supervisors:

Dan McCarty, Chair
Vic Blandine, Auditor
Steve Cunningham, Member
Mike Norris, Member
David Guenther, Member

More Work To Do

The Total Maximum Daily Load for the Little Klickitat River and its tributaries has been a major focus for the District since the Detailed Implementation Plan was finalized in March 2005. The District has been working in conjunction with the WRIA 30 Planning Unit and Ecology to implement strategies to mitigate the temperature TMDL. We completed three projects in 2012 with 3 more to be implemented in 2013.

CKCD is also working with Klickitat County on a Straight to Implementation (STI) plan for Swale Creek.



Other Accomplishments

- 236 participants in 15 sustainable landscaping educational events
- 152 individuals assisted, included 83 soil tests
- 12.6 acres riparian planting along ½ mile of stream, 54 acres maintained
- 1 barrier to fish passage corrected
- 6 farm plans on 54 acres
- Heavy use area protection on 9 farms
- 30 acres of improved pasture and nutrient management on 8 farms
- Waste storage structures on 4 farms
- Roof runoff management on 4 farms
- 1,650 feet of riparian fencing on 3 farms



2012 Feature Accomplishment

Dungeness River Flow Enhancement

Resource Challenge

The Dungeness River provides habitat for four ESA-listed salmonids. It is also the source of irrigation water for the semi-arid Dungeness Valley. Seven irrigation districts and companies have rights to withdraw as much as 50% of the flow of the river. Improving the efficiency of irrigation water delivery and application means less water is withdrawn from the river.

Project Summary and Results

Approximately 3.5 cubic feet per second (nearly 1,100 acre-feet per year) of Dungeness River irrigation water was saved by irrigation efficiencies projects implemented this past year. Technical and financial assistance was provided to Dungeness Irrigation District, Dungeness Irrigation Group, and Agnew Irrigation District to pipe about 6.5 miles of irrigation ditch. In addition Dungeness Organic Produce replaced a big gun sprinkler with a low pressure traveling boom. In addition, water quality will be improved as some of these open ditches were impaired by horse and livestock access.

Jobs Created

These projects created or maintained employment for at least 18 individuals, including the equivalent of six fulltime construction jobs for one year.



Key Project Partners

Washington Department of Ecology
Washington State Conservation Commission
Recreation & Conservation Office Salmon Recovery Funding Board
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

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Board of Supervisors:

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Ben Smith, Vice-Chair
Don Hatler, Auditor
Nash Huber, Member
Linda Barnfather, Member

More Work To Do

Stormwater Management

Continue Sustainable Landscaping education program. Implement low impact development demonstration projects.

Water Conservation

Complete Dungeness Irrigation Group ditch piping. Implement aquifer recharge projects.

Water Quality

Continue assisting high priority farms with conservation planning and BMP implementation.

Salmon Recovery

Replace culverts on Coville Creek, Meadowbrook Creek restoration, implement CREP projects.

Clark Conservation District



State Legislative District #15,17,18,49
Congressional District #3

Other Accomplishments



Developed Backyard Livestock Management documents for urban landowners.



Outreach at fairs, shows, and exhibits provide hundreds of landowners with assistance.



Hosted the Regional Envirothon competition with 12 teams of high school students competing to attend the WA State Envirothon.

2012 Feature Accomplishments

Clark County's Diversity of Natural Resource Conservation

Clark CD has provided opportunities and assistance in the conservation of our county's rich diversity of natural resources. This year we developed new CREP sites; built livestock heavy use areas; assisted with design surveys on culverts and bridges; conducted multiple school age and adult educational activities; created technical guides for urban livestock owners; implemented fish habitat projects; and facilitated planting over 10,000 native tree and shrubs.



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John Baugher, Vice-Chair
Steve Keirn, Auditor
Doug Stienbarger, Member
Lynn Engdahl, Ph.D., Member

More Work To Do

There is a high amount of pressure on Clark County natural resources, and an increased need for education and assistance to Clark County landowners

- Clark County has the 2nd highest population density in WA State.
- The Troutdale Aquifer, an EPA designated sole-source aquifer, supplies the county population with 99% of their drinking water.
- Over 34,000 horses reside in the county, along with numerous other livestock.
- An inventory shows 3,625 culverts blocking fish passage into county streams.

Columbia Conservation District

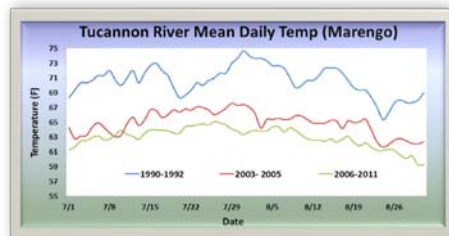


State Legislative District #16
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments

Water Quality Improvement

Habitat projects (1990 – 2011) show significant improvement in reducing mean water temperature



Tucannon Off-Set Dike

Reconnecting flood plain habitat
4 miles of enhanced habitat



New Tucannon Off-Set Dike



2012 Feature Accomplishment

Tucannon River Geomorphic Assessment

Resource Challenge –

Establish a Salmon Recovery Priority River Reach and Project Area Framework in the Tucannon River Basin by updating current condition resource data baseline. Assessing current conditions based on best scientific data available addressing salmon habitat recovery and landowner compatibility with Spring Chinook Salmon as the focus



Tucannon River Dike removal/modification - reconnecting flood plain to enhance ESA species habitat

Project Summary and Results –

Contracted with Anchor QEA, LLC to complete the Conceptual Restoration Plan, Reaches 6 to 10, Tucannon River Phase II. Restoration plans for 28 discrete Project Areas, 30% Design Reports for Project Area 14 (RM 39.2-37.15) and Reach 2 broken into 6 discrete Project Areas/sub reaches (RM 4.5-1.8) and a Restoration Framework for Prioritizing River Reaches and Project Areas were developed. Assessment and planning process has strengthened the technical understanding of existing physical conditions and geomorphic processes in the basin. CCD has initiated securing funding for implementing identified Project Areas on private lands. Agencies and tribes have initiated like efforts on public lands. CCD initiated an Offsite Dike project in Project Area 26/27 (RM26.9-RM 22.95) completing new dike construction (20,550'), dike/levee removal and modification enhancing floodplain connectivity on 130 acres and site re-vegetation (6,500 stems, 30 acres/conservation cover).

Key Project Partners –

Private Landowners, Bonneville Power Administration, WA. Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board, Regional Technical Team

Contact Information

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Board of Supervisors:

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Jim Hanger, Vice-Chair
Byron Seney, Secretary
Clay Hutchens, Auditor
Robin Flem, Member

More Work To Do

Develop producer leadership to address current political economic issues in Production Ag & natural resources.

Complete remaining 8.7 miles of Tucannon River geomorphic assessment & Integrated Framework for prioritizing project implementation.

Technical & cost share assistance to landowners addressing District's annual and long range plan identify restoration projects.

Secure funding for project implementation.

Cowlitz Conservation District



State Legislative District #18, 19
Congressional District #3

Other Accomplishments

Coweeman River Community Watershed Project Implementation



One of 32 structures installed to restore flood plain connectivity and promote forested wetlands



Wetland habitats re-occupied by Beaver Creek.



Channel aggradation resulting in improved floodplain connectivity

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Community Watershed Planning and Implementation.

Salmon recovery, water quality, and invasive weeds are but a few of the resource challenges that do not recognize property lines. Obtaining a measurable response typically requires implementation of a wide range of best management practices over a large spatial area managed by highly diverse interests.



Coweeman River Structures Beginning to accumulate Sediment that will insulate Bedrock and decrease width:depth ratio

The principles of Coordinated Resource Management are being used to work with landowners at the community watershed scale. Salmon recovery issues include habitat complexity, channel stability, fish access, and improving riparian function. Stream temperature, dissolved oxygen, and fine sediment delivery are the primary water quality concerns. Japanese Knotweed is spreading in local watersheds at an alarming rate.

This past year the Conservation District has prepared and successfully submitted three (3) project proposals through the salmon recovery funding board. These proposals continue efforts by the community to address salmon recovery concerns. The proposals represent 3 additional miles of river restoration targeting water quality and salmon recovery.

The District worked with three different contractors to complete a project initiated in 2010 and to conduct maintenance at a mitigation site. Project funding allowed the district to retain to full time equivalent jobs for staff providing technical assistance to landowners. Project funding also provided 3 services agreements with contractors employing about 3 employees each for about a week and provided numerous purchases of materials from local vendors.

The District collaborated with the Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Board and landowners within the Coweeman Watershed to craft and submit a proposal to the salmon recovery funding board for treating Japanese Knotweed and restoring native riparian vegetation.

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Board of Supervisors:

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Russ Kastberg, Vice-Chair
Joe Shulke, Auditor
Jim Scott, Member
Jim Mallet, Member

More Work To Do

Implement 3 funded river restoration projects encompassing 3.5 miles of the Coweeman River

Coordinate the Coweeman River Watershed Knotweed Management Project Proposal when it is funded

Work with at least 2 landowners to develop and submit project proposals for funding

Initiate a community watershed level project in one of the other 12 priority watersheds

Eastern Klickitat Conservation District



State Legislative District #15
Congressional District #4

Other Accomplishments

In-Class Presentations



Rock Creek during spring flow



Our water quality technician goes to 20 sites once each month to download data from the HOBO data loggers, take readings for pH, conductivity, turbidity and stream velocity. This information is downloaded into Ecology's Environmental Information Management (EIM) database.

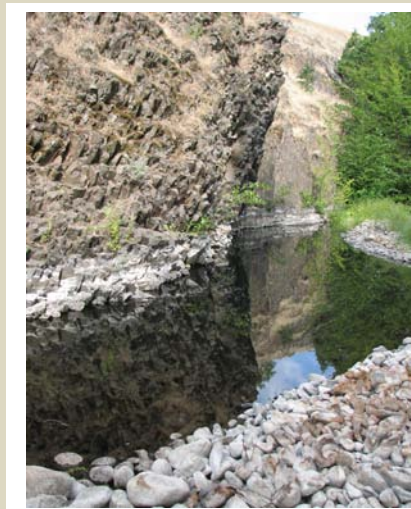


2012 Feature Accomplishment

Rock Creek "Straight To Implementation" (STI) Plan

Resource Challenge –

Rock Creek is listed as a category 5 stream on Ecology's 303(d) list, needing a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for elevated temperatures. EKCD is working with Department of Ecology and Klickitat County to develop a plan that will substitute for the TMDL. EKCD has hosted stakeholder meetings to give input to Ecology and Klickitat County in the development of the STI (Straight to Implementation). An STI is less burdensome on landowners than a TMDL.



Project Summary and Results –

Eastern Klickitat CD is continuing the work begun two years ago by securing additional grants from SRFB and WSCC to fund a LiDAR and Orthoimagery flight over Rock Creek and its major tributaries, as well as a literature review of all historical data and previous studies of the area. Evaluation of this data will guide an on-the-ground survey, with the ultimate goals of understanding the true nature of this unique watershed and the identification of potential in-stream and/or riparian area restoration projects with the greatest chance of successful implementation, maintenance, and meaningful results.

Key Project Partners –

To date, 70% of the landowners in the the study area have granted their permission for district personnel to access their property for this study, some for the first time ever. This level of cooperation is a testament to the strong working relationships and level of trust that EKCD has been able to develop with landowners and operators in our district. We also appreciate contributions of funds and/or expertise from the Conservation Commission, Department of Ecology, Recreation and Conservation Office's Salmon Recovery Funding Board, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Yakama Nation Fisheries.

Contact Information

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Board of Supervisors:

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Mike Copenhefer, Auditor
Ron Juris, Member
Rhon Raschko, Member

More Work To Do

Once viable potential projects are identified, the district can propose suggested activities to interested landowners and pursue funding to help finance the installation of Best Management Practices. EKCD is committed to continuing the promotion of resource conservation through cooperation with willing and well-informed landowners.

With the imminent expiration of the DOE grant that currently funds EKCD's water quality monitoring program, we are now applying for new grants to allow us to continue this work that is so important to the STI process, and to understanding the Rock Creek watershed.

Ferry Conservation District



State Legislative District #7
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments

Kettle River Bank Stabilization



Prior to our project, this land-owner needed a ten-foot ladder to reach the beach.



Now the bank has been stabilized and resloped to protect the property. We also made his beach more accessible.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

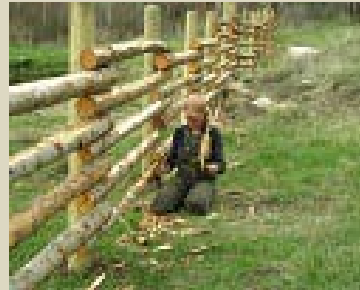
Resource Challenge:

Land owners want to exclude cattle from this wetland, which is the source of their domestic water. Neighbor has installed water troughs, but the cattle prefer to use their old "stomping grounds".



Project Summary and Results:

Often a small contribution nets a big result. In this case, our contribution toward about ½ mile of fencing paid big results. Cattle now stay out of the wetland, and they use the watering facilities that their built with NRCS EQIP funds. We provided a small part that made the project work. In this case we had no formal agreements. We do have common goals, and our efforts often complement our Conservation partners.



In most years Ferry CD can use its State funding to leverage 5 times as much conservation work... \$40,000 in funding could translate to \$200,000 in funds from other sources. \$100,000 infused into our local economy generates \$1,000,000 in activity in our small, isolated local economy. In Ferry County this is significant. Truly we can say we are a significant income generator.

Cooperating Agencies:

Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Conservation Commission, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ferry Conservation District

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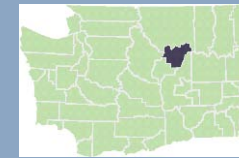
Lee Hall, Chair
Marc Keith, Vice-Chair
Patty McKern, Auditor
Charlotte Coombes, Member

More Work to Do



A massive wind storm in July 2012 devastated thousands of acres of timber land within our District. Added to the insect and drought damage we are already suffering, our forests are in dangerous condition.

Foster Creek Conservation District



State Legislative District #12
Congressional District #4

Other Accomplishments



Seventeen landowners participated in the FCCD Biological Weed Control Program. This resulted in the implementation of 69 BMP's in Douglas County.



Tim Behne, FCCD performing water monitoring.



Over 3,500 viewed FCCD's Fair Display in August of 2011.



Approximately 600 students participated in the Wheat Week Education Program.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Development of 322 Conservation Plans for State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE)

Resource Challenge – Sage Grouse have long been considered the icon for a healthy shrub steppe habitat. Douglas County is one of the last remaining strong holds for the grouse in Washington State. The objective of the SAFE Program is to increase number of wildlife habitat acres to protect greater sage and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse.



Project Summary and Results –

One of the important goals of SAFE initiative projects is to protect and restore habitats for rare, threatened or endangered wildlife. The program is geared toward working with farmers and ranchers to conserve rare species before they have to be listed under the Endangered Species Act. Interest and enrollment in this voluntary program has exceeded expectations.

In Douglas County, Wash., 322 conservation plans were developed or approximately 52,000 acres were enrolled in a new SAFE initiative for sage-grouse and sharp-tailed grouse. Local producers can now voluntarily preserve and restore important habitat and provide additional benefits for sage-grouse, which rely on private lands. Research in Douglas County shows that over half of sage-grouse nesting activity occurs in participating Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land. Meanwhile, many sharp-tailed grouse breeding and nesting activities also occur on CRP land.

As a result of this project, approximately 1,200 FTE's were retained. This figure includes producers, seed suppliers, pesticide suppliers and implement dealers.

Key Project Partners –

Farm Service Agency
Natural Resource Conservation Service
WA Department of Fish and Wildlife

WA State Conservation Commission
US Fish and Wildlife Service

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Board of Supervisors:

John McLean, Chair
Lee Hemmer, Vice-Chair
Howard McDonald, Auditor
Wade Troutman, Member
Sharon Davis, Member

More Work To Do

- Finalize negotiations of the Multi Species Habitat Conservation Plan with USFWS for 17 threatened, endangered, and/or species of concern on no-federal agricultural lands.
- Continue to develop approximately 386 Conservation Plans with NRCS.
- Continue implementation to control invasive weed species on approximately sixty proprietries in Douglas County.
- Continue implementation of Watershed action plan to address water resource concerns for approximately 1.3 million acres in WRIA's 44 & 50.
- Organize Regional Envirothon for fifty area high school students.
- Wheat Week education for 600 students.

Franklin Conservation District



State Legislative District #9, 16
Congressional District #4

Other Accomplishments

Water Conservation Saves Energy

The Franklin Conservation District enrolled an additional 10,000 acres into its Irrigation Water Management Program this year thanks to funding from the Washington State Conservation Commission. This brings the total acreage enrolled in this conservation program to 30,000 acres. By participating in irrigation water management farmers will not only conserve water but also energy.

Franklin CD Assists USDA with Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Filter Strips

Franklin CD staff conducted field inspections and conservation plans on 164 fields covering 2,368 acres of CRP filter strips. The inspections were to ensure that the plant species and densities met certification criteria for re-enrollment into CRP.



2012 Feature Accomplishment

Wheat Week & Water on Wheels Classroom-Based Education Programs

The Franklin Conservation District's classroom-based education programs continued to grow and reach more students across Washington.

The popular *Wheat Week* Program educated 5,639 students last year in 20 Counties throughout Washington. Nine Wheat Week Educators taught 4th and 5th graders five natural resource and conservation-minded science lessons over the course of one week. Instructors use wheat as the tool in teaching the scientific concepts. Topics covered through *Wheat Week* include water, soil, watersheds, energy and systems.

Water on Wheels reached 17,774 students through 692 individual lessons taught by 5 educators across Eastern Washington. Water on Wheels lessons focus on water, soil and energy conservation. Teachers choose from a number of natural resource focused lessons aligned with their science standards.

Teachers rave about the Franklin Conservation District's education programs and feel that they provide the natural resource expertise that they themselves may be lacking.

Key Project Partners - Franklin Conservation District, Washington Grain Commission, Washington State Conservation Commission, Washington Wheat Foundation, CLD Pacific Grains, City of Richland, City of Kennewick, City of Pasco, City of West Richland, North Yakima CD, Benton CD, South Yakima CD, Lincoln CD, Foster Creek CD, Asotin County CD, Spokane CD, Kittitas CD, Eastern Klickitat CD, Central Klickitat CD, Shaver Transportation, Port of Whitman, Port of Clarkston, Herron Bros., Grant County Assoc. of Wheat Growers, Whitman County Assoc. of Wheat Growers, Franklin County Assoc. Of Wheat Growers, Douglas County Assoc. of Wheat Growers, Verle Kaiser Conservation Endowment Fund

Alison Hart, Wheat Week and Water on Wheels Educator in Yakima, teaches students about watersheds.



10 Educators provide Wheat Week for the 2012-2013 School Year



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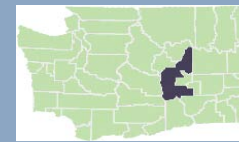
Brad Bailie, Chair
Scott Moore, Vice-Chair
George Poulson, Treasurer
Chris Herron, Member
Dick Bengen, Member

More Work To Do

Franklin Conservation District is working with Dept. of Ecology to allow farmers to use a portion of water, saved through the implementation of conservation practices, to irrigate additional acres while also benefiting in-stream uses.

Franklin Conservation District with funding from the Washington State Conservation Commission will be implementing a noxious weed control cost-share program in the dryland and rangeland areas of Franklin County. Noxious weeds not only impact the economics of agricultural but also negatively affect native species and habitats.

Grant Conservation District



State Legislative District #9, 12, 13
Congressional District #4

Other Accomplishments

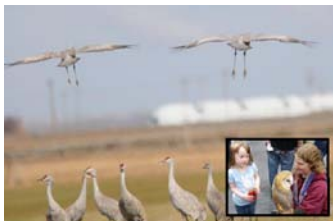
Irrigation Water Management Program- 129 participants overing 119,335 acres.



Dairy Solid Waste Containment



Community Gardens Project



Othello Sandhill Crane Festival



Organic Farm Weed Control
54 with solar fencing

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Treestand Improvements Provide Multiple Benefits On Royal Slope Farm.

Resource Challenge – Improving wildlife habitat is not the highest priority for most farmers in the arid regions of Washington. But when “bundled” as a way to decrease wind erosion, block cold winter winds, provide shade and improve visual beauty to a farm it becomes more appealing. Mature trees add value to a property and planting new trees every few years ensures that the stand remains healthy and functional for other generations. The Jelmborgs enjoy wildlife & wanted to provide contiguous corridors for cover, food and safe wildlife movement to habitat areas near Crab Creek in this remote corner of Grant County.



Wildlife foodplot comprised of sorghum & corn protected by established trees along perimeter of bean field

Project Summary & Results – For vegetation to survive in this low rainfall area (<8”) irrigation is essential. The Jelmborg 3-row tree planting project consisted of approximately 1/2 mile of buried irrigation line installed with fittings, risers & sprinklers to keep the trees alive.

There were adequate irrigation ponds with strong pumping stations so that wasn't a concern. Digging the half-mile trench was more of a concern. The soils consisted of fine sands & gravel layers over cemented duripan, aka caliche, present at 20”. The soils were identified as belonging to the Scoon variety in the NRCS soil survey.

With the site properly prepared & ready for planting, 1 row of conifers, 1 row of willows, and 1 row of various shrubs were planned. The plantings will be established in just a few years improving essential wildlife areas, making the farm more energy efficient, reducing dust storms, and increasing the visual and recreational aspects of the property.

Key Project Partners - George Jelmborg Family; Grant CD; Washington State Conservation Commission, NRCS, 2 temporary jobs created.

Contact Information

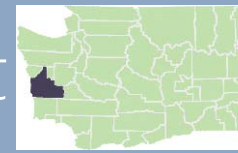
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Board of Supervisors:

David Stadelman, Chair
Richard Leitz, Vice-Chair
Derek Stevens, Auditor
Dale Wentworth, Member
Paul Stoker, Member

More Work To Do

- 6 large Category 3 projects funded & ready to proceed.
- 9 Category 3 projects on waiting list pending funding.
- Continue & expand Irrigation Water Management (IWM) program in GCD boundaries.
- Work with DOE & farmers to process burn permit applications
- Develop &/or revise Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs).
- Administrative support for annual Sandhill Crane Festival
- Develop cost share projects that conserve natural resources.
- Water on Wells (WOW) educational program in schools.
- Crop ID Program.
- Consolidation with WCD & MLCD



Other Accomplishments



Cranberry bog w/o crib & cover



Same bog with crib & cover installed

Cost share funds provided by GHCD completed the cribbing & covers on an 8.5 acre cranberry bog.



The GHCD Forest Stewardship Program provided technical assistance and education to over 40 landowners and participants in Grays Harbor and 3 counties in surrounding southwest Washington.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

FISH PASSAGE BARRIER

Resource Challenge –

This is one of 2 projects completed on this property in 2012. This undersized culvert with a 2 ft. outfall was one of two barriers to be corrected for this landowner on two separate tributaries of Raney Creek. There were no additional barriers downstream. Chinook, Coho, Steelhead and Sea run Cutthroat were observed in both tributaries but passage upstream was blocked by the undersized culvert and the 2 ft. outfall from the culvert. The downstream is scoured and incised.



Undersized Culvert

Project Summary and Results –

The undersized culvert was removed and stream work was completed to adjust for elevation differences from upstream to downstream. Streambed gravel was added to assist with in stream slope adjustment. Large woody debris was added to the downstream side for habitat complexity and grade controls. Rip rap was installed to protect the bridge footings. A 40 ft. long by 14 ft. wide modular steel bridge was installed. All exposed soils were mulched and grass seeded. Erosion control measures were added for the road and ditches approaching the bridge to divert as much storm water runoff away from the bridge and stream area as possible. The completion of this project removed the only two fish passage barriers on the tributaries of Raney Creek and opens up 1.25 miles of habitat for Chinook, Coho, Steelhead, and Sea run Cutthroat.

This project was a partnering of the Recreation and Conservation Office, Family Forest Fish Passage Program, Grays Harbor Conservation District and the Non Industrial Private Forestland Owner. 1 FTE was created by this project.



Three months after project completion

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Carl Waara, Auditor
Gary Waltenburg, Member
Steve Hallstrom, Member
Byron Bentson, Member

More Work to Do

Water Resources:

Continue our work on removal of identified fish passage barriers.
Continue our work with cranberry producers on installation of approved water quality BMP's

Forestland:

Continue to provide forestry technical assistance, education, and outreach to NIPF landowners

Livestock:

Continue to provide technical assistance and NMP updates and production to current and new cooperators

Cropland:

Work with small agricultural producers on conservation plans

Jefferson County Conservation District



State Legislative District #24
Congressional District #6

Other Accomplishments



Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Hedgerow



Wittekind Bridge Replacement



Water Quality Monitoring



56 Forestry Field Day

2012 Feature Accomplishment

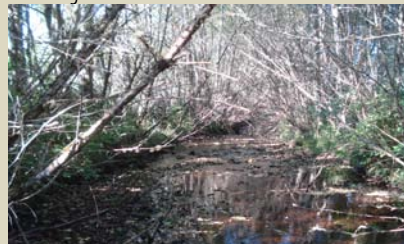
Data Driven Conservation

Andrews Creek Project



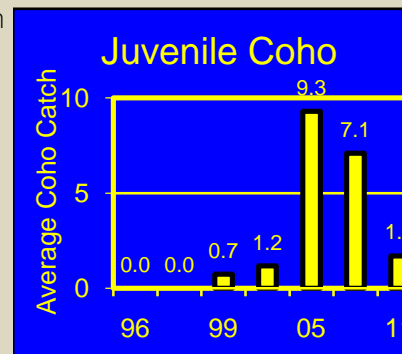
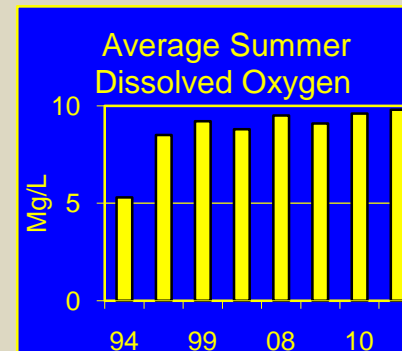
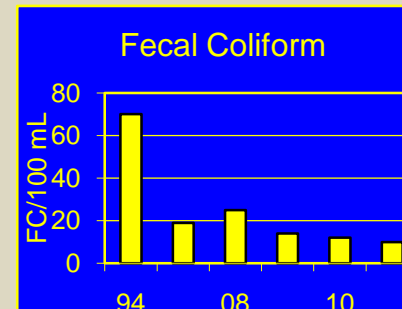
In 1994, Andrews Creek was choked with vegetation in an unshaded ditch running along Highway 101 for about half a mile. Flooding across the road sometimes occurred. Dissolved oxygen was low, fecal coliform was high, and juvenile coho salmon were absent from the reach. In 1995, a new stream channel including meanders was excavated away from the road. Large woody debris and two sediment traps were installed and a fifteen foot buffer of trees was planted along both sides of the creek.

Today, a dense tree canopy shades the stream channel. The channel is free of vegetation. Dissolved oxygen has increased and fecal coliform decreased. Stream temperature meets the state standard and juvenile coho salmon are abundant.



Key Project Partners - Washington State Departments of Transportation, and Fish & Wildlife, and John Boulton, landowner, in completing the Andrews Creek Project.

Ongoing Partners - Dept. of Ecology, EPA, Conservation Commission, Jefferson County Environmental Health, North Olympic Salmon Coalition, WSU Coop. Extension, Landowners, and volunteers.



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Glen Huntingford, Chair
John Boulton, Vice-Chair
Roger Short, Auditor
Lige Christian, Member
Julie Boggs, Member

Staff:

Rosie Taylor, Manager
Jerry Clarke, Resource Specialist
Glenn Gately, Water Quality Tech

More Work To Do

Data Driven Conservation

Continue water quality monitoring to identify problems & evaluate trends to determine where improvements need to be made, and document improvements where BMPs have been implemented.

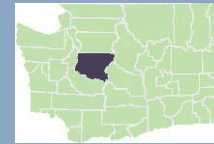
On the Ground Conservation

Assist landowners and managers with issues affecting water quality, agriculture, forestry and salmon habitat restoration/protection.

Keeping Farmers Farming

Support local efforts targeting farmland protection, farming infrastructure, and local food sustainability

King Conservation District



State Legislative District #1, 5, 11, 30, 31, 32, 33,
34, 36, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48
Congressional District #1, 2, 7, 8, 9

Other Accomplishments

Conservation Farm Plans

72 delivered, 2,383 acres



WRIA, Member Jurisdiction, and Opportunity Grant Programs - 2011

44 grants awarded with for total
of \$2,404,944 in funding

Landowner Partnerships Restoration Projects

4.78 acres of total project area
restored, over $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of
stream/wetland shorelines
restored, 9,349 total native
plants installed.

Volunteer Program

780 volunteers were engaged to
apply 2,474 volunteer hours
towards 63 projects



Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

13.6 acres of buffer area,
6,518 feet of stream shoreline
restored with 6,252 native

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Pickering Barn Garden Renovation

King Conservation District (King CD), through its partnership grant program with the City of Issaquah, provided the funding to turn Pickering Barn Garden into a beautiful and beautifully functioning public space that demonstrates sustainable gardening practices, engages the community in environmental learning, and produces abundant produce for Issaquah families in need.



The City of Issaquah partnered with regional sustainable gardening experts Seattle Tilth to design and build a community demonstration garden and provide on-site education that promotes organic gardening and best management practices to Issaquah residents. The project garnered substantial community support, with over 370 volunteers and four interns clocking in 1,706 hours to build a better Pickering Garden. In addition to the community at large, volunteers hailed from 10 organizations – schools, businesses, and service and environmental non-profits, ensuring a broad foundation of engaged and invested supporters.

The project was designed in the fall, and the garden installation got underway in February. Elements included constructing a streambed, erecting garden beds, planting food crops and fruit trees, installing a drip irrigation system, mulching and maintenance. Harvesting began in May and continued through November, resulting in over 1,300 pounds of fresh, organic produce donated to the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank over the course of the six-month season.

In addition to renovating the demonstration garden, the City of Issaquah partnered with Seattle Tilth to help residents learn how to be better stewards of the environment. Seattle Tilth's Garden Hotline held four classes or workshops reaching 94 people. They also set up tables at local farmers markets and sustainability fairs, totaling 11 events in all. Through these events, they fielded questions from 550 people. In all, they provided information on best gardening practices to 644 people.

The Pickering Barn Garden Renovation project is an excellent example of building community while building infrastructure and securing commitment to the ideals and practices the District promotes to meet its mission and mandate of voluntary stewardship of the land and natural resources.

Contact Information

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Board of Supervisors:

Bill Knutsen, Chair
Jeanette McKague, Vice Chair
Max Prinsen, Auditor
Kit Ledbetter, Member
Eric Nelson, Member

More Work To Do

Under the new system of rates and charges (ESHB 2567) and with a change in local funding, the District is poised to be more responsive to its constituents' needs.

Through strategic partnerships with County, cities, businesses and non-profit entities, the District will expand its support to city communities seeking help with surface water, shoreline protection and local food issues while maintaining its historic collaboration with rural residents, farmers and foresters.



Key Project Partners

Kitsap County Surface and Stormwater Program
WSU Extension, Kitsap Public Health District, Washington Conservation Corps, Kitsap County Parks & Recreation

Accomplishments

Kitsap Conservation District completed numerous Best Management Practices and agricultural designs, and provided community education on agriculture and natural resources in 2012. KCD completed:

- 12 Watershed Inventories
- 14 Conservation Plans
- 188 Site visits
- 706 requests for assistance
- 36 Education events
- 76 BMP designs



Pervious pavement installation

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Backyard Habitat Program Benefits Kitsap Creeks

Resource Challenge –

Dickerson Creek provides critical spawning and rearing habitat for salmon steelhead that are on the endangered species list. Like many creeks in Kitsap County, Dickerson has degraded habitat and stream health. Failing riprap and concrete walls, bank erosion, noxious weeds,



Project Summary and Results -

This project was sponsored in part by the Kitsap County Surface and Stormwater program through a grant contract administered by the District. However, landowners played the most important role. Inspired by their desire to preserve the natural area they live in, their love of fish, and concerns with erosion, the landowners helped give this stretch of the creek a total makeover.

Before work could begin, the creek was diverted around the work zone and fish were rescued from the pools. In one small pool, over 200 fish were netted and released downstream. Two rock walls were removed and 24 pieces of large woody debris were used to create in-stream habitat and to stabilize the banks.

In another section an old bridge abutment was removed and the stream bank was sloped back to accommodate high flows. Over three large dump truck loads of noxious weeds were removed, along with one load of refuse.

This fall the whole area will be planted with Douglas fir, western red cedar, and native riparian shrubs. The District assisted with coordination, permitting and planting, while the landowners received quotes for the design and construction and helped work with the contractors.

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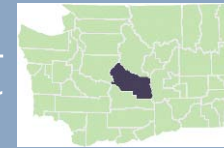
Sharon Call, Chair
Jackie Lovely, Vice-Chair
Frank Varley, Auditor
Albert Allpress, Member
Nikki Johanson, Member

More Work to Do

- Retro-fit Kitsap County DOT Storm Ponds
- Rain Garden Grants to Homeowners
- National Estuary Program Cost Share for Agricultural BMPs



Kittitas County Conservation District



State Legislative District #13
Congressional District #4

Other Accomplishments

Riparian Restoration

On the Teanaway River, a 2.3 acre planting was completed with 1500 seedlings and 700 cuttings. The project was funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Ecology.



Teanaway River Planting Site

Another riparian planting project was completed along a side channel of the Yakima River. It included 650 seedlings and 1500 cuttings. It was funded by the US Fish & Wildlife Service.



Yakima River Side Channel Site

Washington Conservation Corps crews provided the labor for both projects.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Wildland Urban Interface - Fuels Reduction Projects

Resource Challenge – Fire exclusion and lack of thinning have resulted in dense stands of vegetation in the Wildland Urban Interface areas of Kittitas County. The forest canopy is closed in many places and the amount of downed woody debris is excessive. Dry windy weather, low humidity and precipitation all contribute to the high to extreme fire risk.

Project Summary and Results – A series of projects in upper Kittitas County were planned and completed both with communities and with individual landowners. A great example is the Wagon Wheel community in the Teanaway River watershed. Wagon Wheel worked

cooperatively with the KCCD, Kittitas County Fire District No. 7, and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources to complete projects including a 50 acre shaded fuel break around their community, road buffers within their community and individual thinning and pruning projects with community members. In addition, Wagon Wheel worked with Fire District No. 7 staff to create accurate maps for evacuation and fire protection planning. Wagon Wheel has also achieved recognition as a Firewise USA Community.

Key Project Partners – Washington Department of Natural Resources, Kittitas County Fire District No. 7, American Forest Holding LLC, and the Wagon Wheel community.



Above: This map displays the shaded fuel break (in red) around the Wagon Wheel community and the road fuel breaks (in orange) within the community.

Below: Fire District No. 7 crew uses a chipper as part of their fuels reduction project at a home site.



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Board of Supervisors:

Mark Moore, Chair
Lynn Brown, Vice-Chair
Jeff Brunson, Auditor
William Boyum, Member
Ron Gibb, Member

More Work To Do

Fish Screening & Passage

- Coleman Creek (2 Projects)
- Manastash Creek (1 Project)
- Teanaway River (3 Projects)

Irrigation System Improvements

- Manastash Pipelines (1 Project)
- Small Project Cost Share For Irrigation Upgrades (6-8 Projects)
- Sprinkler Conversion Projects (5 Projects - 450 Acres)

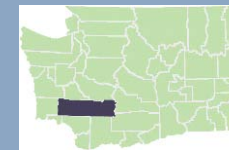
Water Quality

- Riparian Planting Projects (3 Acres- Jack Creek and Whiskey Creek)

Wildland Fire – Fuels Reduction

- Community Fire Plans (6)
- Roving Chipper (500 Acres)
- Shaded Fuel Break (30 Acres)
- Home Site Assessments (300)
- Individual Defensible Space Projects (200 Acres)

Lewis County Conservation District



State Legislative Districts #19, #20
Congressional District #3

Other Accomplishments



Unnamed Tributary in Lewis County. Culvert is a fish barrier.



Project during construction.



Project after completion of culvert removal.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program and Department of Ecology Riparian Planting Grant

With budget constraints affecting our ability to keep the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) successful, the Lewis County Conservation District (LCCD) wrote and received a 319 grant from the Department of Ecology (DOE) to augment the funds. This gives us the ability to continue to serve all cooperators requesting assistance in CREP.



CREP site with livestock exclusion fence planted in 2007.

Project Summary and Results – LCCD utilizes 319 funds and Conservation Commission (CC) funds to assist cooperators in high priority reaches and watersheds in the Upper Chehalis River basin. These areas were identified in the DOE temperature and dissolved oxygen Total Maximum Daily Load studies. In the first year of the grant we accrued over 75% of the required match for the 319 grant with funds from the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to plant the riparian zones. FSA pays for 90% of the costs to complete site preparation, purchase and plant the trees and shrubs, to purchase and install tree protectors to ensure high survivability of the vegetation and to construct livestock exclusion fencing along the CREP buffers.

In the first year the combined funds were used to plant 28.4 acres of trees and shrubs in our high priority areas. The plantings will provide future shade, stream bank protection, wildlife habitat, a strip of vegetation to protect the streams and rivers from nutrient runoff, a source of large woody debris and a food source for the aquatic inhabitants. The areas planted totaled 1.99 miles of stream banks. In addition, the projects installed 5,735 feet of livestock exclusion fencing.

Using 319 funds in our high priority areas has given the LCCD the ability to continue to assist all other cooperators along eligible CREP streams in Lewis County under the CC grant. Other riparian areas planted during the first year totaled 22 acres. This has been and will continue to be a win, win, win, for the LCCD, the DOE and the CC in keeping CREP successful. Two full time jobs were funded in the completion of these projects.

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Board of Supervisors:

David Fenn, Chair
Marvin Courtney, Vice-Chair
Ann Tuning, Secretary/Treasurer
Chuck Hayes, Member
Ken Crocker, Member

Associate Supervisor:

Chris Aldrich

More Work To Do

Forest Land: There are approximately 145,774 acres of non-industrial private forest land in Lewis County. To date we have provided very little assistance to these stakeholders due to the lack of funding.

Agriculture Land: There are 357,971 acres of privately owned agriculture land in Lewis County. Landowners are consistently requesting new and updated conservation plans.

Lincoln County Conservation District



State Legislative District #7
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments



Hosted the State Land Judging Contest (143 students, 18 schools attended)



6th Grade Conservation Day (156 students attended)



Assisted NRCS in the completion of 245 CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) contracts

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Agricultural Energy Management Plan-Energy Audit Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

Resource Challenge – It's no surprise that energy is a major business expense. Energy audits or whole-farm energy planning is the first step towards energy-saving opportunities. Through the EQIP Energy Initiative, NRCS is providing cost-share incentives for the development of an Agricultural Energy Management Plan-called an energy audit. The Headquarters program will identify ways to conserve energy on farmsteads through an on-farm energy audit. The Landscape program analyzes agricultural operations (crop/pasture management, forestry practices, manure handling, and other farming activities) and provides financial assistance to implement NRCS-recommended conservation practices.



Project Summary and Results –NRCS & LCCD processed 129 interested applications, of that 99 were preapproved as eligible applications. Finalized 54 Headquarter & Landscape Audit Contract for \$123,862.40. Finalized 34 Energy Practices Contract for \$2,871,189.50. LCCD is assisting NRCS and producers with the Energy Audit process. Technical Service Providers are starting to develop Conservation Activity Plans for producers.

Partnerships -

NRCS West Palouse Team, Davenport Field Office & Lincoln County Conservation District

Contact Information

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Eddie Johnson, Auditor
Keith Schafer, Secretary
Mike Carstensen, Member

Employees:

Elsa Bowen, Bookkeeper
Sharon Buck, Receptionist
Dean White, Water/Soil Technician

More Work To Do

- Inventory of Spalding Catchfly
- Controlling Leafy Spurge Grant
- Technical Service Provider with NRCS to complete the Adams & Lincoln County CRP, EQIP, & Cultural Resource Surveys,
- Passive Rehydration SEPA process
- Assist with 9 producers to install best management practices
- Audubon Lake Trail vegetation removal & rock placement
- WRIA 53 static well monitoring
- Fort Spokane Fuels Reduction Project
- Save Water, Save Energy Project
- Host NE Area Meeting
- Nitrate water testing, mapping & monitoring, education & outreach

Mason Conservation District



State Legislative District #35
Congressional District #6

Other Accomplishments

The District *implements on-the-ground conservation and restoration* to achieve:

- Water Quality in all watershed.
- Increased economic diversity.
- Improved stewardship and increased restoration of habitat.

District education programs *support on-the-ground conservation and restoration* for both adult and youth. These programs include:

- Educating landowner's about Best Management Practices.
- Holding natural resource conservation educational events in the community.
- Educating agricultural entrepreneurs about sustainable farming practices and farm business planning by co-sponsoring Cultivating Success courses.
- Expanding existing school outreach and education efforts.
- Educating 5,000 people from throughout the Puget Sound region about salmon habitat protection through visits to the Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail.
- Educating 1,000 youth in 4th and 5th grades through two field day events.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

SKOKOMISH RIVER ESTUARY RESTORATION PROGRAM

Resource Challenge - Estuarine habitats are the most fundamental building block for protecting aquatic freshwater and marine ecosystems and the species that depend on them. Virtually all watershed assessments and species recovery plans from landscape to reach to watershed scales call for improving estuarine habitats quality/quantity. Estuarine habitats have declined substantially across Puget Sound.



Project Summary and Results – The primary objectives of this initiative were to:

Restore natural tidal flushing or river sediments, removal and uptake of nutrients, and support historical salmon runs. The lack of juvenile salmon rearing habitat has been cited by federal, state and tribal resource managers as the most important habitat recovery action for recovery of three ESA listed species of trout and salmon.

The estuary area is critical for the rearing and acclimation of juvenile salmonids from fresh water to salt water. A number of watershed impacts have played a role in the degradation of this important ecosystem. The loss of essential riverine and intertidal areas has created a critical limitation in regional ecosystem functions.

This project is a multi-phase effort to restore over 600 acres of saltwater estuary and wetlands to historic conditions. Phase 2 was completed in 2012 returning over 300 acres to its natural state. Phase 3, an additional 300 acres will begin later in 2012 and be completed in 2013.

The entire project was designed by Rich Geiger, Olympic Cluster Engineer.

Key Project Partners – Skokomish Tribal Nation, US Fish & Wildlife Service, NOAA, WDFW, Resource and Conservation Office, and the Washington Conservation Corps.

Contact Information

John Bolender, District
Manager
450 W. Business Park Road
Shelton, WA 98584
(360) 427-9436, ext. 21
jbolender@masoncd.org
www.masoncd.org

Board of Supervisors:

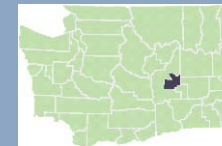
Bill Burrows, Chair
Adam James, Vice-Chair
Michelle McCallum, Auditor
Bonnie Hall, Member
Jason Ragan, Member
Larry Boltz, Associate

More Work To Do

The District continues to be a leader in efforts to create a diversified economy, while protecting the natural resource heritage of the community.

- Rapid population growth continues to increase pressure on natural resources.
- Water quality of area rivers, lakes, and marine shorelines continues to be impacted by increasing pollutants from surface waters.
- Agricultural lands are being converted to other land uses, threatening the security and safety of local food system.

Moses Lake Conservation District



State Legislative District #13
Congressional District #4, 5

Other Accomplishments

Partnered with local walleye club & contributed funds for fishing & wildlife viewing platform for handicapped access on Moses Lake.

Provided cost share for sprinkler efficiency packages on several pivot irrigation circles.

Hired writer to research, interview, and publish booklet on Moses Lake CD history.

Provided cost share for Polyacrylimide (PAM) to minimize soil erosion from irrigation practices.

Provided technical assistance & support to livestock producers within the MLCD boundaries.

Partnered with Grant PUD as part of larger IWM program on several farms.



2012 Feature Accomplishment

Moses Lake Second Graders Discover Importance of Soils

Resource Challenge – Preventing soil erosion and maintaining soil health are two important lessons that were learned the hard way long ago.

Educating future generations about soil resources, uses of soils, agriculture, & industrial uses will ensure that those valuable concepts have not been forgotten.

Project Summary and Results –

The popular *Dig it! The Secrets of Soil* exhibit came to Spokane on loan from the Smithsonian Institute. With it came a lot of excitement and a long waiting list. Two 2nd grade classes from the Sage Point elementary school were fortunate enough to book a field trip to go see the exhibit.

Numerous models and hands-on activities helped students to observe soil characteristics, such as texture, and understand different actions and/or reactions when various methods of land management or farming practices are used.

The importance of the wise-use of our soil resources was the take home lesson and having fun while exploring the vast world of soils was a perfect way to get the message across to those 60+ kids.

Project Partners – Wash St. Conservation Commission, Spokane CD, NRCS, WSU, Upper Columbia RC&D, Numerica Credit Union, Bullitt Foundation, David & Dorothy Charitable Trust, Pemco, Welty Foundation, & many many more.



Contact Information

Marie Lotz, District Administrator
528 W. Broadway
Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509) 488-2802
Marie-lotz@conservewa.net

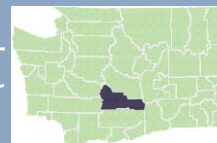
Board of Supervisors:

Dan Roseburg, Chair
Dale Gies, Secretary/Treasurer
Stanley Meyer, Member
Rex Chamberlain, Member
Rhonda Ross, Member

More Work To Do

- Work with farmers & citizen groups & provide cost share for conservation projects.
- Three Category 3 projects planned pending funding. Two on commercial dairies & one at egg layer operation. \$152K requested.
- Work with farmers & DOE on processing burn permits
- Expand Grant PUD on IWM & energy efficiencies programs.
- NMP revisions & updates planned with 3 dairies & 1 large feedlot.
- Develop new NMPs as needed
- Work on consolidation of districts with GCD and WCD.
- Develop small farms educational & technical assistance program.

North Yakima Conservation District



State Legislative District #13, 14, 15
Congressional District #4

Other Accomplishments



Solar pump, water tank, hardened area and Riparian management fence at Comeau Project – Wenas Cr.



Van Wyk Project, a 4516 acre proposed Farmland Preservation Program Project - Cowiche Basin



Matson pump station and fish screen
A project implemented under NYCD's Yakima Tributary Access and Habitat Program – YTAHP.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Wenas Creek Riparian Management Comeau Property

This project was designed to meet the landowners' habitat and stream enhancement needs as well as promote proper grazing. The project implemented many BMP's that will meet future Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) requirements. This project and many others in the Wenas Watershed (Yakima County's priority VSP watershed) have been identified and several have been implemented as early action projects in anticipation of full funding of the VSP program. The VSP program will utilize the farm planning process and cost-share programs offered by the NYCD.

Project Summary and Results:

The project implemented 3500 ft of riparian management fencing, one solar powered pump/watering facility with hardened area, and 250 ft of integrated stream bank protection concentrating on the use of bio-engineering techniques and principals. The results of the project were the enhancement of 115 total acres of riparian, flood plain and upland habitats.

Key Project Partners:

Project partners include the landowner, Washington Department of Ecology, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Washington Conservation Corps.



Bank Preparation & WCC crew



Comeau Before



Comeau Bio-Engineering Implementation

Contact Information

Michael Tobin, District Manager
1606 Perry Street, Suite C
Yakima, WA 98902
(509) 454-5736 ext. 5
mike-tobin@conservewa.net
<http://nycd.scc.wa.gov>

Board of Supervisors:

Gail Thornton, Chair
Arnold Swain, Vice-Chair
Dustin Melius, Auditor
Frank Hendrix, Member
George Cameron, Member

More Work To Do

The NYCD's resource priority is to develop programs that maintain agricultural, working lands and open space areas for the multitude of benefits they provide. These benefits include economic stability, fish and wildlife habitat, open spaces, reduced natural resource degradation potential and sense of community. At this time NYCD has identified over 23,000 acres for the State's Farmland Preservation Program (needing \$16 million in funding).

NYCD is developing long-term programs and partnerships to address the threat of wildfire throughout the District, from its rangeland areas to its forested lands.

Okanogan Conservation District



State Legislative District #7, 12
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments

Plant Sale Brochures	1,800
Newsletters	7,100
Plants sold	6,559
Conservation plans developed	43
Education – people reached	4,319
Feet of Fence installed	6,060'
Spring developments	2
Solar pumps installed	1
Pumping plants installed	2
Watering facilities	2
Feet of Pipe installed	7,300'
Plants planted	6,080
Acres seeded	3.41
Fascines installed	250
People Reached w/ Technical assistance	51
Cultural Resources evaluations completed	1
Cost Share \$ put on the ground	\$274,942

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Gladstone Stream Realignment

Resource Challenge –

Bonaparte Creek flows along SR 20 through at the edge of the Gladstone property for approximately 4,200 feet. In this stretch the stream picks up significant sediment load, road cast off, and has caused erosion of the highway road slope during high water events. The landowner was interested in returning the stream to its historic stream channel in an adjacent field and contacted the District for assistance.



**Bonaparte Creek along Highway 20
Before Project**

Project Summary and Results -

The District partnered with the Colville Confederated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Department and Washington Department of Transportation to design and construct a new stream channel in the adjacent field. After construction, the stream was partially diverted in the fall of 2011 and fully diverted in the spring of 2012. The new stream has been planted with native vegetation and is continuing to be monitored for stream flows, vegetation survival, and erosion potential. In the completion of this project, approximately 3 FTE were funded.



**Bonaparte Creek
after diversion**



**Project after planting and
diversion into new stream
channel.**

Contact Information

Craig Nelson, District Manager
1251 2nd Avenue South, Rm 101
Okanogan, WA 98840
(509) 422-0855 ext. 5
craign@okanogancd.org
www.okanogancd.org

Board of Supervisors:

Ivan Oberg, Chair
Jerry Asmussen, Vice-Chair
Albert Roberts, Auditor
Wes Hover, Member
Lorah Super, Member

More Work To Do

Assist livestock operations in addressing resource issues.

Bring 115 irrigation withdrawals up to regulatory standards for "fish-friendly" screens.

Annually conduct educational events reaching 2,500+ students and 500+ adults.

Conduct on-farm energy audits and provide technical assistance to improve those energy efficiencies.

Implement action items of the Okanogan Watershed Plan.

Pacific Conservation District



State Legislative District #19
Congressional District #3

Other Accomplishments

PCMRC MarineDebris Cleanup

The Pacific County Marine Resources Committee (PCMRC) is Coordinated and facilitated by the Pacific Conservation District. In 2012 the PCMRC funded the Grass Roots Garbage Gang cleanup project, \$3,450.00 and the Willapa Bay Estuary Cleanup project, \$5,000.00. The combined debris cleanup for these two projects in 2012 removed 29.9 tons of debris from our estuary, local beaches and marine environment. These two projects provided 4,784 hrs of volunteer time collecting marine debris.

Willapa Bay Cleanup 2012



Beach Cleanup 2012



2012 Feature Accomplishment

Wright - Montgomery FFFPP/CCPI Partnership - Project

The PCD sponsored the Wright FFFPP and Montgomery FFFPP projects in partnership with NRCS and the CCPI program. This partnership replaced a 96" barrier culvert and a 48" barrier culvert that blocked salmon migration on Elk Creek and a tributary to Elk Creek. Both barriers were replaced with 14' x 40' Bridges. This partnership has extended the FFFPP funds by bringing in federal dollars to assist small forest landowners with resource concerns. This is a win – win for people and the environment.

Summary and Results

This partnership identified, assessed and replaced a 96" and a 48" barrier culvert that blocked salmon migration within the Elk Creek Watershed. The PCD in partnership with landownership, FFFPP, NRCS and the CCPI program replaced the barriers with 14' x 40' Bridges. Designs were created to meet NRCS, WADNR and WDFW specifications. The project was put out to bid in two phases. The first phase conducted a bid process to acquire (2) AISC certified bridges. The second phase of the bid process acquired a contractor to install the bridges to design specifications. These projects opened 5.03 miles of habitat in the Willapa Watershed.



Completed project - 2012



Before Construction – 2012



During Construction -

Project Partners – Landowner, PCD, NRCS, FFFPP, RCO, WADNR, WDFW, Waterfall Engineering, RTI Bridge Co. and NDC Timber Co.

Jobs – In the completion of this project, 17 individual jobs were partially funded.

Contact Information

Mike Johnson, District Manager
PO Box 336
South Bend, WA 98586
(360) 875-9424
paccon@willapabay.org

Board of Supervisors:

Mark Ashley, Chair
Bob Falkner, Vice-Chair
Victor Niemczek, Treasurer
Doug Crawford, Member
Al Lougheed, Member

More Work To Do

- Ortquist FFFPP Project.
- Sopinwnick FFFPP Project
- Lignoski Restoration project
- WSDA Knotweed Assessment
- Naselle Knotweed Control
- North River Knotweed Control
- Willapa Knotweed Control
- Small Farm Plan Implementation
- Johnson Barrier removal project
- WA State Parks culvert projects (2)
- Cranberry BMP Implementation
- CREP Program Implementation
- Small Forest Plans/BMP imp
- O'meagher restoration project
- MRC Coordination
- Lead Entity Coordination
- WCSSP Board
- WCSSP Planning, TRT Team

Palouse Conservation District



State Legislative District #9
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments

- Plant the Palouse Campaign established at 5 sites in 2012
- North Fork Palouse River Information Meeting held



- Volunteer storm drain marking program developed
- Initiated two Connecting People with Nature Programs:
 - Family Science Saturdays
 - Sunnyside Field Days



- Grand opening of the Palouse Native Plant Walk
- Stream Trailer demos

2012 Feature Accomplishments

Off-site Water Developments for Livestock

Offsite watering facilities will keep livestock out of the river reducing the impact to banks and water quality. Riparian buffers will reduce excess amounts of sediment, fecal matter, organic material, nutrients, and pesticides in surface runoff. These projects will also restore natural riparian plant communities and eradicate many noxious weeds.



Offsite water development

Sunnyside Elementary Outdoor Classroom



Palouse Conservation District partnered with Sunnyside Elementary School, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, The Palouse Discovery Science Center and AmeriCorps to construct an outdoor classroom on the school property. The outdoor classroom consists of outdoor benches and a walking trail with interpretive signs through three different Palouse habitats including wetland, Palouse prairie, and forest.

Over 300 native plants were installed by students, staff, and volunteers to accompany the newly constructed nature path and benches. The classroom is public and available for other schools to use as well.



Contact Information

District Manager, Vacant
1300 NE Henley Court
Pullman, WA 99163
(509) 332-4101
pamfpalousecd.org

Board of Supervisors:

Larry Cochran, Chair
Chris Heitstuman, Vice-Chair
Keith Kopf, Auditor
Mark Whitmore, Treasurer
Joan Folwell, Member

PCD Total Acreage 368,519

Cropland 310,519 acres

Rangeland 45,400 acres

Woodland 2,970

POPULATION:

District Ag. Cooperators 728

Small Rural Landowners 5,000

City of Pullman 29,799/WSU 27,000

Colton 406, Uniontown 355,

Garfield 610 Albion 582 Palouse 980

More Work To Do

North & South Fork Palouse River TMDL Implementation: Riparian buffers and livestock fencing along 280 miles of perennial streams. Ongoing water quality monitoring.

Palouse Prairie Phase II: Restoring & protecting native plants, migratory songbirds & pollinators with USFWS & WDFG.

Direct Seed Program: Increase enrollment and continue monitoring.

Palouse Stream Trailer: Perform programs in all PCD school districts to supplement existing curriculum.

Partners for Fish & Wildlife: Improving habitat and educating landowners



Other Accomplishments



Direct Seed Demonstration Tours
with assistance from USDA-ARS
Pullman, WA



Harvesting Direct Seed Fields to
achieve High Residue utilizing a
Stripper Header



Riparian Weed Control using Weed
Wiping for the application of
Herbicides

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Direct Seed Outreach Education and Cost Share Program

Resource Challenge –

Soil erosion is the highest priority resource concern in the Palouse Rock Lake Conservation District. There are 304,000 acres of cropland that are susceptible to water and wind erosion in the district. Using conventional farming methods winter snowfall and spring rains increase erosion and decrease water quality through sedimentation. Direct Seed, one or two pass seeding and fertilizing will decrease soil loss to less than 1 ton per acre per year.

Project Summary and Results -

The direct seed outreach and education programs in conjunction with the direct seed cost share programs have enabled cooperators in the district to increase implementation of the direct seed system from 15% to 40% of tillable acres. With funding from the Washington State Department of Ecology and Washington State Conservation Commission the PRLCD was able to assist 34 cooperators with cost share programs for direct seed systems. These funds can offset the cost of custom seed, equipment purchase and other expenses. Results can be seen through the reduction of soil erosion between a direct seed field and a conventional field after a rain event.

Key Project Partners –

PRLCD Cooperators, Washington Conservation Commission, Farm Service Agency, Department of Ecology, Washington Conservation Corps, Natural Resource Conservation Service and USDA-Agricultural Research Service, Department of Fish and Wildlife



Direct Seeding into Heavy
Residue



Bringing Expiring CRP land
back into Production using
Direct Seed Systems



Direct Seed Fallow vs
Conventional Fallow after a
summer rainfall event

Contact Information

Dan Harwood,
District Coordinator
North 3 Park Street
P.O. Box 438
St. John, WA 99171
(509) 648-3680
prlcd@stjohncable.com

Board of Supervisors:

Clinton O'Keefe, Chair
Clark Miller, Vice-Chair
Tom Kucklick, Secretary
Tracy Eriksen, Auditor
Peter Swannack, Member

More Work To Do

Provide outreach education opportunities through the support of direct seed meetings, cooperating with neighboring conservation districts, the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association and to local schools and cooperators.

Increase adaption of Direct Seed in lower rainfall areas using increased technology and lower disturbance equipment.

Demonstrate variable rate fertilizer and seed rates using direct seed technology to increase conservation acreage, decrease potential nutrient loss and increase farm profitability

Pend Oreille Conservation District



State Legislative District #7
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments

POCD has partnered with the Pend Oreille Public Utility Department to provide technical, educational and cost share assistance for bank stabilization and native plants along the Pend Oreille River



POCD has finished putting the finishing touches on our Land Stewardship Guide with information on rural living in Pend Oreille County. The guide is intended to help existing and perspective landowners understand the importance of natural resource conservation and how to apply natural resource management concepts to their land. Also listed in guide is the appropriate contact information for assistance.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Resource Challenge –

The Little Spokane River (LSR) headwaters begin in Pend Oreille County. This important watershed provides a recreational and scenic rural landscape that includes forested ridges, small farmed valleys and abundant wildlife. However, historic resource extraction, agricultural clearing, poor land management practices and development pressures have resulted in significant



impacts to the water resources and water quality. Because of issues such as riparian vegetation losses, stream-bank erosion, wetland losses, and agricultural and forestry practices sections of the LSR and its tributaries do not meet Washington State water quality standards for fecal coliform, temperature, and turbidity.

Project Summary – The Washington Department of Ecology has funded a grant to address the water quality issues in the LSR. This grant will assist landowners in the implementation of best management practices that improve riparian health and protect water quality. The District has several landowner agreements in place for the installation of three off channel water facilities and over 10,000 native plantings.



Key Project Partners –

WA State Department of Ecology
WSU/Pend Oreille County Extension
Natural Resource Conservation Service
WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife
Pend Oreille County
WA State Department of Natural Resources
Pend Oreille Public Utility District

Contact Information

Terry Holloway, District Manager
PO Box 465
Newport, WA 99156
(509) 447-5370
www.pocd.org

Board of Supervisors:

Ralph Christiansen, Chair
George Stuivenga, Vice-Chair
Michele Masuen, Treasurer
John W. Floyd, Member
Randy Leestma, Member

More Work To Do

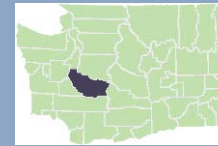
Resource planning

Increase outreach and education efforts, targeting landowners that have not utilized District programs in the past.

Continue to build community partners to ensure sound environmental and agricultural practices are implemented in our county.

Develop a Small Farms Program to assist small farmers in efficient agricultural practices that would otherwise be too expensive to pursue individually.

Pierce Conservation District



State Legislative District #2, 25-31
Congressional District #6, 8, 9

Other Accomplishments



Manure storage structure built at the Foust farm in Eatonville



Gig Harbor Rain Garden installed at the city's Visitor's Center



Knotweed Control Project
35 river miles surveyed and treated in two watersheds

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Sumner Wastewater Facility Riparian Planting

The Sumner Wastewater Treatment Facility sits at the confluence of the Puyallup and White Rivers. A walking trail runs through the property to the tip of the peninsula at the confluence where the two rivers meet.



Stream Team organized a volunteer planting project at this site, when plants were installed on each side of the trail. There was a great turnout that day, as 68 volunteers helped to install 655 plants.

The project got a huge burst of energy from a group of Boy and Girl Scout troops. As part of the event they learned about the value of planting native plants and trees along nearby streams. At the end of the day all the plants had been installed and protected with tree tubes and mulch, and the tired but happy volunteers had enjoyed hot chocolate and doughnuts.

Contact Information

Ryan Mello, Executive Director
PO Box 1057
Puyallup, WA 98371
(253) 845-9770
ryanm@piercecountycd.org
www.piercecountycd.org

Board of Supervisors:

Jeanette Dörner, Chair
Dave Seago, Vice-Chair, Auditor
Ernie Bay, Member
David Batker, Member
Sheila Wynn, Member

More Work To Do

Authorize first-ever revenue from Rates & Charges funding

Work with industrial property owners to install rain gardens in the Port of Tacoma

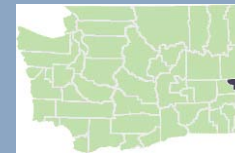
Lead coalition to protect sustainability of family farms

Implement one or more community solar projects

Assist City of Tacoma in meeting "30% by 2030" tree cover goals

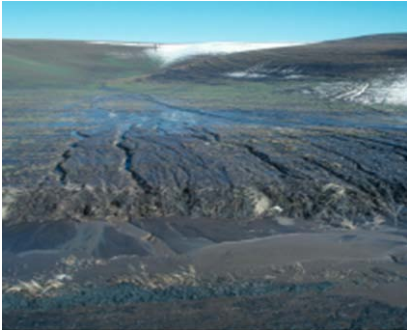
Work with diverse populations to resolve difficult natural resource conservation issues

Pine Creek Conservation District



State Legislative District #9
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments



Erosion and runoff are still problems in the district.
(picture taken spring 2012)



Upgraded farm shop lighting results in better light, reduced energy usage and water saved behind dams.



Harvesting wheat on productive direct-seeded land.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Precision Agriculture Technology Protects Water Quality

Resource Challenge –

Growing highly productive crops annually in the Palouse region of Eastern Washington generally requires high inputs of chemicals and fertilizers. Conventional methods used to apply chemicals and fertilizers often result in inefficient application of these inputs. Combined with the rolling and steep topography of the region, inefficient applications can result in runoff of excess chemicals and fertilizer into streams. Additionally, the excess inputs have potential to leach into groundwater.

Project Summary and Results –

Precision Ag technology utilizes global GPS, computers and complex pumping, valves, monitoring and application equipment to accurately and precisely apply chemicals and fertilizer on the land. Over-application can be reduced by over 20% in a typical application.

Continued funding from the Washington Legislature and Conservation Commission allowed the district to fund its first-ever precision ag technology cost share program with landowners. Cost-share was provided to landowners to implement precision ag technology on 8,500 acres this year. These systems will continue to be used for multiple applications over the life of the equipment on these 8,500 acres.



Harvesting productive direct seeded acres

Contact Information

Raymond Brown, District Manager
401 South SR 27
Oakesdale, WA 99158
(509) 285-5122
pinecreekcd@oakesdale.net

Board of Supervisors:

Tom Henning, Chair
Joe St. John, Vice-Chair
David Gumm, Secretary/Treasurer
James Fletcher, Member
Ron Kile, Member

More Work To Do

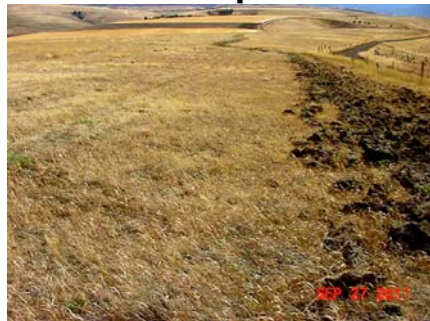
- Expansion of the district's new cost share program to implement more precision ag technology systems.
- Improvement in the district's water quality by increasing the direct seeded acres, grass buffer acres and filter strip acres.
- More energy audits and energy implementation projects to be completed.
- Partnering with other districts to increase district operating and administrative efficiency.

Pomeroy Conservation District



State Legislative District #9
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments



CRP takeout that have been
Chemical fallowed for one year.



CRP above that has been seeded
with a no-till drill. Very low
potential for erosion.



Another off site watering facility
to improve livestock pasture
management and remove
livestock from the riparian area.

72

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Continuing No-till Program

The Pomeroy Conservation District has worked for years to bring a viable and economical erosion control practice to the farmers in the district. The no-till seeding program has been a large part of this practice for over 20 years. Fortunately, the price of chemicals used for chemical fallow has come down and farmers are staying with their no-till seeding programs. The introduction of the weed-seeker sprayer technology two years ago still helps meet other aspects of the overall no-till program.



Project Summary and Results – The district's weed-seeker sprayer is in it's third year of operation. The data collected over the last two years has shown a chemical reduction from 30 to 90% compared to a regular sprayer doing the same job at the same rate of chemical. The chemical reduction depends on the rate and the weed being addressed. Although the cost of the Roundup Herbicide and other chemicals used for chemical fallow has come down in price since the sprayer was introduced in 2010, the reduction of chemicals used still reduces the chemical costs to the farmers. The Pomeroy Grain Growers has operated the sprayer on a custom spraying contract with the Pomeroy CD. The maintenance costs increased this last year with normal wear and tare. A future modification of the sprayer using the funds collected may be for the installation of the auto-boom system that will further reduce the chemicals used. The late spring and early summer increased rainfall amounts over the last two years allowed for the regrowth of the volunteer grains and therefore the benefit of spraying only the scattered weeds with the weed seeker was lost. The high concentration of green growth created a larger area that needed to be sprayed. That scenario led to a lower demand for the sprayer for the 2nd and 3rd herbicide applications.

Partners Involved -

Washington State Department of Ecology
Pomeroy Grain Growers Farm Division
Farmers of Garfield County

Contact Information

Duane Bartels, District Manager
PO Box 468
Pomeroy, WA 99347
(509) 843-1998
pcdistrict@qwestoffice.net

Board of Supervisors:

Kyle Pearson, Chair
Richard Hastings, Vice-Chair
Paul Weimer, Auditor
John Dixon, Member
Lee Blachly, Member

More Work To Do

The Pomeroy Conservation District continues to work with the farmers and ranchers to implement and maintain the conservation practices to reduce the erosion from our highly productive agricultural lands. We are working with the cooperators in the district to help find an effective and economically feasible control of the noxious weeds that are attacking our rangeland. A continued effort is being made thru the different funding sources to reduce the impact of livestock on water quality. The district will continue to improve habitat and remove barriers so steelhead numbers can increase in our streams.



Other Accomplishments

- Coordinated with the SJC Community Development & Planning Department to implement the EPA grant *Managing Growth in Island Communities*. SJICD conducted site visits for demonstration rain gardens and held three Low Impact Development (LID) Workshops - focusing on Westcott Bay and Eastsound watersheds - reaching out to over 250 landowners and professionals.
- Developed 33 Farm, Forest, and Small Parcel Plans - assisting landowners with best management practices to protect 611 acres.
- Held a *Managing Mud & Runoff on Horse Properties – Pasture & Manure Management* with Horses for Clean Water Workshop.
- Secured \$122,000 in WSCC capital dollars for planning and implementing on-the-ground Cost-Share projects including a Community Land Trust neighborhood of 24 homeowners.
- Active member in the Puget Sound Conservation District Caucus, the Puget Sound Partnership Local Integrating Organization, San Juan EcoNet and the Stewardship Network in order to tackle the 2020 Action Agenda.
- Native annual plant sale in conjunction with WSU Master Gardener Foundation.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Soil Test Challenge



Resource Challenge –

Can we, as soil managers, improve our soils, increase fertility, increase organic matter, and promote carbon sequestration?

Soil sustainability! We talk about doing it, but are we? Can we balance our outputs with our inputs?

The only way to know if we are managing our soil well is to begin with a soil test.

The SJICD partnered with Washington State University Extension of San Juan County and the AgSource Laboratories to offer free soil testing to all county residents. Soil samples were taken in the month of October 2011 and again in June 2012 from the same location in a production area of a farm or garden that was or had planned to be actively managed on an ongoing basis, for example, a pasture, a garden, or an orchard.

Project Summary and Results – 68 garden, 11 pasture, 5 orchard and 4 forest soil samples were submitted. Optimum nutrient levels were based on the crop grown. The 88 results were synthesized and graphed based on pH levels ranging from 5.4 to 7.8. Of the samples, 29 were above, 11 were below and 26 were within the optimum pH range of 6.0-6.5. Some of the nutrients appear correlated to pH levels such as potassium and boron. Results were displayed at the SJC Fair in August 2012.

Key Project Partners – San Juan Islands Conservation District; Washington State University Extension of San Juan County, and AgSource Laboratories.

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Stephen Belluomini, Vice-Chair
Vicki Heater, Auditor
Henning Sehmsdorf, Member
Vacant Appointed Position, Member

More Work To Do

- Soil conservation / composting / erosion control / preservation of soil nutrients.
- Water quality.
- Water availability / quantity.
- Agricultural self-reliance / production / land base.
- Energy resource conservation.
- Public attitudes and understanding of living on an island – adopting a broader stewardship ethic.
- Forestry Management.
- Wildlife, upland and near shore habitat.

Skagit Conservation District



State Legislative District #39, 40, 10
Congressional District #2

Other Accomplishments

CREP (to date)

- 572 acres planted
- 180,256 stream feet planted
- 34.1 miles of buffer installed
- 57,845 feet of fencing installed
- 257,676 native plants installed

Engineering

- 7 designs completed
- 21 projects received TA

Farm Planning

- 95 livestock owners received TA
- 20 new plans written
- 1,478 acres protected, improved, or enhanced through BMP implementation

Forestry and Firewise

- 6 forest plans written
- 25 landowners received TA
- 255 acres improved/protected by Firewise BMPs
- Skagit Firewise video produced and nationally distributed

Public Outreach and Education

- 4,822+ hours reported by volunteers
- 422+ individuals participated in adult workshops/classes
- 470+ storm drains labeled and approximately 700 informational door hangers distributed by volunteers
- 1,200+ students participated in youth education programs
- 4 newsletters distributed reaching 12,000+ readers



74 Stream Team Volunteers sample creek

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Samish Watershed Improvements

Resource Challenge – Due to the support and involvement of Samish Watershed residents, the Skagit Conservation District, and Clean Samish partners, the fecal coliform concentrations declined significantly in the Samish River Watershed over the past two years. However, a disappointing turn for the worse occurred during the spring rainy season, and we did not meet the State Shellfish Office criteria to upgrade Samish Bay from “conditionally approved” to “approved.”



Installation of a solid waste storage structure

By providing technical assistance and education, SCD will continue to help landowners do their part in protecting and improving the health of the Samish Watershed. Cost-share opportunities offered by SCD allow landowners to implement BMPs such as fencing livestock out of waterways, managing mud and manure, and improving riparian areas. SCD will continue to be at the forefront of protecting the health of the Samish Watershed – one landowner at a time.

Project Summary and Results – To date, the SCD provided the following in the Samish Watershed:

- 79 structural BMPs have been or are in the process of being completed
- 46 plans approved/in progress
- 30.4 buffer acres implemented
- 17,156 (3.25 miles) of fencing installed
- 14 targeted workshops on BMPs conducted reaching 300+ landowners
- 3250 local residents attended various events highlighting the Samish Watershed
- \$364,706 total cost share expended/obligated

Key Project Partners – Skagit County, WA State Dept. of Ecology, Samish Bay Shellfish Growers, Samish Indian Nation, WA State Dept. of Health, WA State Dept. of Ag, EPA, WA State Conservation Commission, Skagit Conservation Education Alliance, Western WA Ag Assoc., WA State Dairy Federation, WA State Cattleman's Assoc., Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

Cost share provided for implementation of these BMPs has resulted in the creation of 10.5 jobs.

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Dean Wesen, Vice Chair
Wendy Pare, Auditor
Thijs Jacobson, Member
Janet McRae, Member

More Work To Do

SCD will continue to work closely with local landowners and Clean Samish partners to upgrade Samish Bay to approved status and to improve water quality with emphasis on the spring rainy season over the next year.

The health of our watersheds, the people, and the fish and wildlife that reside here are dependent on clean water. We will continue to work with local residents - rural and urban - to protect and improve our water quality for the benefit of all.



Other Accomplishments

Site visits	424
Farm Plans/TA letters	58
Brush Mgmt	13 ac
Compost Facility	16
Conservation Crop Rot	40 ac
Critical Area Planting	5 ac
DNMP Approved	15 ac
DNMP Certified	11 ac
Data Collection & Eval	161
Demonstration Garden	1
Drainage Mgmt	8 ac
Engineering Design	27
Fence	1,810 ft
Filter Strip	35 ft
Firewise Assessment	46 ac
Forest Site Prep	5 ac
Forest Stand Impvt	21 ac
Grassed Waterway	10 ac
Heavy Use Area	8 ac
Informational mailings	210
Landowner Agreements	11
Manure Transfer	2
Noxious Weed Control	2.6 ac
Nutrient Mgmt	2,866 ac
Past./Hayland Planting	27 ac
Pest Management	28 ac
Prescribed Grazing	89 ac
Education/Outreach	2,980
Rain Garden	6,685 sf
Riparian Forest Buffer	4 ac
Roof Runoff	12
Soil Test	109
Subsurface Drain	200ft
Surface Water Mgmt	54
Tree/Shrubs Establish	6 ac
Use Exclusion	6 ac
Waste Storage Facility	5
Waste Utilization	267 ac
Watering Facility	1

2012 Feature Accomplishment

North Everett Rain Garden Pilot Project

Resource Challenge

The City of Everett outgrew their combined sewer system resulting in overflows, neighborhood flooding, and flooded basements during large storm events. Poor draining soils and seasonal high water tables added to the problems.

Project Summary and Results

In the fall of 2010 the City of Everett called upon SCD and our partners to help them offer solutions to landowners in an area that had been hard hit during large storm events the prior two winters. The two year contract, funded by the City's stormwater fees, included education and outreach, community building, and constructing rain gardens to help reduce the flooding. Enthusiasm and interest in the project was sparked through neighborhood meetings, door knocking, and workshops. Seven homeowners were chosen through an application and site evaluation process, and seven very different rain gardens were built by a local contractor and crew employed for two weeks. The gardens were planted by the homeowners and volunteers as part of a great community-building day in September 2011.



Given the challenging soils, the goals to reduce flows going to the combined sewer system, and dry up the basements, SCD Engineer Derek Hann had to get creative. Today, the basements are dry, the gardens are working even better than we hoped, and enthusiasm remains high. Neighborhood tours are popular, and seeing these successful examples are a great inspiration for others. The homeowners are doing a great job maintaining their gardens and reporting performance measures and rain data back to SCD and the city.

Key Project Partners

City of Everett, Snohomish County WSU Extension, Stewardship Partners, and Innovative Landscape Technologies



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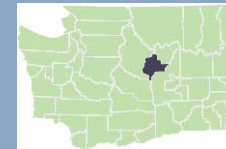
Board of Supervisors:

Mark Craven, Chair
Adam Farnham, Vice-Chair
Karl Hereth, Treasurer
Steve Van Valkenburg, Auditor
Jeff Ellingsen, Member

More Work To Do

- Implementation of the recently developed 5-year plan.
- Implementation of the full suite of resource management projects on private lands (residential parcels – large acreage commercial farms) as identified by the Board of Supervisors, Citizen Advisory Committee, and partners. Focus on priority watersheds and critical resource concerns.
- Engage communities: identify common concerns and strategies to address the concerns; implement practices and behavior changes that have a positive impact on all resources.
- Leverage funds~install projects

South Douglas Conservation District



State Legislative District #12
Congressional District #14

Other Accomplishments



Wheat after Soil Testing – South of Douglas



Cost Share Project in Progress-
Soil Erosion and Fire Control



Team at NCW Envirothon –Badger Mountain - Waterville

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Improving Water Quality

Resource Challenge –

Protecting water quality by reducing erosion and runoff is a continuing challenge in South Douglas. Near drought conditions exacerbate the problem and also influences air quality. Reducing the amount of tillage operations by providing no/low till equipment for rent to our cooperators decreases the potential amount of air borne soil. Cost Share funding for cooperators for soil testing, erosion control, irrigation systems and other Best Management Practices is our largest expenditure.

Project Summary and Results –

By providing cost share to 28 farmers, 29,414 acres were protected. This included not only assistance with soil testing but also building a new irrigation system with erosion and fire control at Trusting Spirit Horse Rescue. In addition 750 acres were farmed by 4 producers, using the District's no/low till equipment, further reducing erosion and improving air and water quality while improving soil productivity. The District sold its no till drill and will reinvest in other conservation equipment or cost share projects.

Education and outreach are key factors in protecting our resources. As the District becomes more urban than rural, it is important to promote conservation to all citizens. These projects include:

- Annual Tree and Shrub Sale (1,000 plants to 50+ buyers)
- Support of Cascadia CD Kids in the Creek (150 students)
- Support of Waterville School's Douglas Creek Monitoring Task (30)
- Support of Waterville School's Conservation Energy Project (30)
- Hosted NCW Envirothon at Badger Mountain (75)

South Douglas was able to purchase 35 wildlife guzzlers at bulk rate for area farmers who needed them for their new CRP contracts.

Key Project Partners –

Washington State Conservation Commission funded most of cost share projects. In cooperation with NRCS, Foster Creek CD, Cascadia CD and area farmers, South Douglas is able to use most of our funding for on the ground projects and minimal for administration.

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Jeff Rock, Member
Larry Auvil, member

More Work To Do

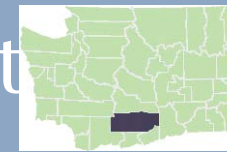
With our Administrative Efficiencies Grant

- Develop Firewise Program for Douglas County
- Expand BioControl Program

Further Work

- Increase outreach and education to landowners.
- Provide assistance to farmers to implement Best Management Practices within CRP program.
- Upgrade irrigation systems.
- Encourage new conservation and water quality practices.
- Improve wildlife habitat

South Yakima Conservation District



State Legislative District #15
Congressional District #4

Other Accomplishments



In partnership with Benton CD and Franklin CD, "Salmon in the Classroom", Wheat Weeks, and Water on Wheels (WOW) educational programs reached **1316** students and **73** teachers from five elementary schools during the 2011-2012 school.



Switching from conventional tillage to no till can save about 3.5 gallons of fuel per acre. It also reduces erosion, optimizes soil moisture, and improves water quality by keeping topsoil and nutrients out of creeks, streams, and irrigation return drainages. Producers used the inter-seed drill to direct seed **410 acres**.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

On Farm Energy Efficiency

Resource Challenge -

According to the USDA, 15% of agricultural production costs are energy related. Today, farmers and ranchers across the country are facing higher energy costs and increased environmental regulations.

There are many farming practices that can help reduce energy use and protect our natural resources.



Project Summary and Results -

South Yakima Conservation District assisted the Washington State University's Extension Energy Program in conducting energy audits to evaluate energy conservation options and identify potential energy savings on 21 dairy "headquarters." This audit can help farmers save energy and also save money with utility incentives and the NRCS EQIP Energy Incentive Program. Energy saving measures includes:

- Lighting - Changing from T12 fluorescent to T8 fluorescent, install occupancy sensors or photo-cells.
- Insulate hot water piping.
- Install variable speed drives (VFD) on existing pumps.

We are also working with local agricultural producers to increase on-farm energy efficiency in partnership with Benton Rural Electric Association, Bonneville Power, and South Central RC&D Council through the "**Save Water Save Energy**" program.

BPA sponsors incentives that enable northwest public electric utilities to offer services and financial reimbursements to farmers to implement energy efficiency measures. These measures include: irrigation hardware upgrades, variable frequency drives, farm lighting, irrigation system motors, low pressure nozzles, and scientific irrigation scheduling.

Key Project Partners – USDA NRCS and Rural Development, WSU Extension Energy Program, Conservation Commission, WACD, WSDOA, WA Dairy Federation, state agricultural associations, and participating utilities.

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Jon Nishi, Auditor
Janelle Moses, Member
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More Work To Do

- Seek additional funds for technical and financial assistance to apply BMP's, improve water & air quality, and on farm energy efficiency.
- Continue as member of the Lower Yakima Valley GWMA Advisory Committee to identify solutions to reduce groundwater contamination.
- Host outreach/educational workshops on irrigation water management, nutrient management, and energy efficiency.
- Continue work with local dairy and livestock facilities to ensure all local, state, and federal regulations are met, develop and/or updating nutrient management plans and providing technical assistance with BMP implementation as needed.

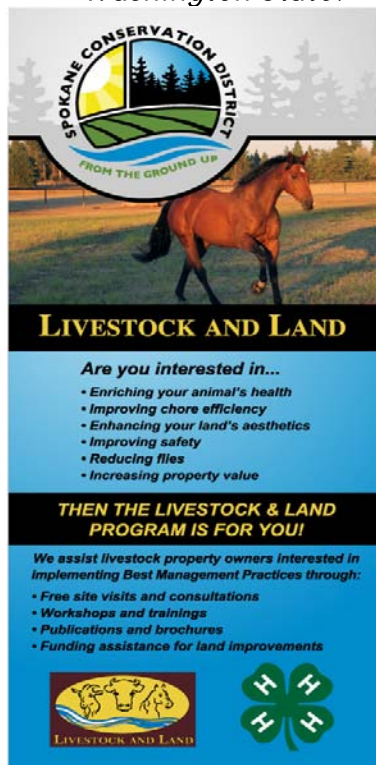
Spokane Conservation District



State Legislative District #3, 4, 6, 7, 9
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments

Livestock and Land Comes to Washington State!



Regional Arbor Day Event with Public Lands Commissioner Peter Goldmark



6 Tree City USA awards were presented and Avista Utilities received their first Tree Line USA award. A Susie Forest Tree was also planted in the District Arboretum

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Dig It! The Secrets of Soil!

A Smithsonian Exhibit brought to the Spokane Museum of Arts And Culture!

In 2011 the Spokane Conservation District began an effort to bring the Dig It! exhibit to Spokane. The coalition of 44 agencies, entities and individuals was led by Past Chair of the WSCC, Lynn Bahrych and SCD District Director, Vicki Carter.



Partners and sponsors of Dig It! enjoy a private pre-opening tour of the exhibit led by Smithsonian exhibit Curator, Patrick Magonigal

Project Summary and Results

The process of bringing the exhibit to Spokane took over a year. A committee of relevant agency partners from national, regional, state and local levels worked hard to design curriculum, solicit sponsors and other partners, raise funds to pay for school buses and even help build the exhibit.

Along with the exhibit itself, a series of special events was designed to enhance the exhibit experience. The first event was a teacher's workshop held in July. The 90 attendees experienced some of the learning activities that would be presented to the school children during the 8-month tenure of the exhibit. The teachers were also able to reserve their place on the calendar to bring their class to Dig It! All possible time slots for classroom visits through September were booked solid by April. The second event was the opening of the exhibit that included a special panel discussion on Global Hunger and how it relates to soil loss and degradation. Over 400 people went through Dig It! on opening day.

A 3-event lecture series began with Estella Leopold presenting "Green Fire", a documentary on the life and work of her father, Aldo Leopold, followed by Professor David Montgomery, author of "Dirt: The Erosion of Civilizations". The final in the series was Professor John Regonald presenting on Sustainable Agriculture for the 21st Century.

More than 20,000 people, including nearly 7,000 school children went through the exhibit from February 4 through September 22, 2012. On the final day of Dig It! a Farm to Table - Harvest Celebration took place with locally sourced foods and beverages and music.

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Randy James, Vice-Chair
Jaki Shrauger, Auditor
Mary Sullivan, Member
Tom Miller, Member



Stacey Selcho, District Education Coordinator with some of the 9,475 school children she presented conservation lessons to during the 2011-2012 school year

More Work To Do

Introduce "Faces of Conservation" Program honoring people that exemplify voluntary conservation efforts.

Farmland Preservation Projects on 5 Mile Prairie and explore possibilities for a "Model Farm".

Expand Livestock and Land and Small Farms Programs to all areas of the County.

Stevens County Conservation District



State Legislative District #7
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments

SCCD receives Region 1 Outstanding Cooperation Award from the National Association of Agricultural Educators.



SCCD Board receiving national award at annual meeting.



Staff receiving Washington State Award

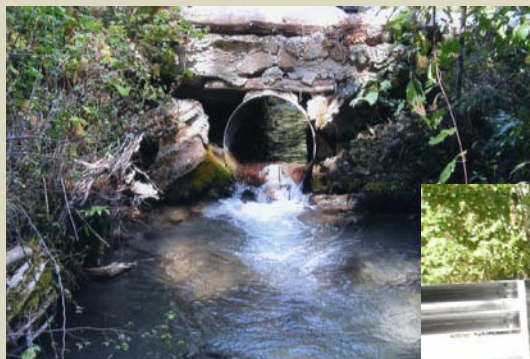


Forestry Contest, Tree Identification

2012 Feature Accomplishment

RCO—McMurray 3F2P Project

Resource Challenge – Fish barrier, restricted waterway creating flooding problems, landowner required to replace to comply with Forest Practices Act.



Stevens Co Conservation Dist. McMurray-Clugston Creek RA (006-2206)
Attachment #5, Schwager, Outlet



Project Summary – Culvert on Clugston Creek was a 100% fish barrier. Because it is a tributary to Mill Creek and has good habitat upstream, this area is high priority to reconnect the waterways for the fish.

Project Results – One of the five clustered barriers removed, the rest scheduled for removal in 2013/14. With the removal of the five barriers, 12.83 miles of habitat will be reconnected. This project opened up .53 miles of habitat and provided work for local contractor (.15 FTE).

Key Project Partners – Landowner, Stevens County Conservation District, WA Department of Natural Resources and Recreation & Conservation Office.

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Tom McKern, Vice-Chair
Connie Bergstrom, Auditor
Pete Guglielmino, Member
June Gordon, Member

Associate Supervisors

We have 12 individuals who help with special projects, contests and events and give the district direction.

More Work To Do

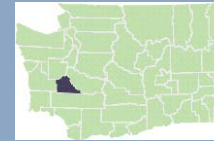
Youth Education - SCCD

partnered with Colville National Forest and received a Children's Forest Grant to develop a strategic education plan and regional educator position.

Flood control land protection -

the past two years of good spring moisture have created high flows, increasing flooding of farmable ground and threatening structures throughout the County. Dredging and channel maintenance were the practices of the past. We need to find new ways to help the landowner and protect the environment.

Thurston Conservation District



State Legislative District #2, 20, 22, 35
Congressional District #3, 9

Other Accomplishments Nisqually Rain Garden

Before:



After:



- Installed ~2,300 sq. ft. rain garden in public right-a-way
- Treat ~4,062 sq. ft. of stormwater runoff (from roadway and cul de sac)
- 90+ middle school students involved in salvaging plants & installing ~250 plants
- Partners include: Mason Conservation District, South Sound GREEN, Komachin Middle School, Nisqually Highlands HOA, Shellfish Fund, and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Additional Acres of Shellfish Growing Area Re-Opened in South Puget Sound Inlet

Resource Challenge – Declining water quality from the heavily developed areas of Lacey, Olympia, and other parts of Thurston County led to several shellfish classification downgrades between 1985 and 2005 in Henderson Inlet. Contributors included stormwater runoff, improperly managed (or failing) septic systems, agricultural farms, and pet waste.



Students learn about the anatomy of an oyster

Project Summary and Results – In 2001, Thurston County formed a shellfish protection district (SPD) to address the water quality problems in the watershed. Soon after, Thurston Conservation District agreed to dedicate 28% of the District's annual assessment funds specifically for work within the SPD. Together with other entities, we have utilized those funds (along with other grant dollars) to address those water quality issues mentioned above. The *Clear Choices for Clean Water* program was also developed. This incentive-based program challenges residents to take actions to help improve the water quality in Puget Sound. To date, 237 residents have implemented 1,925 actions! The District has also helped 192 farms implement 563 Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Now, following 26 years and over 650 acres of degraded shellfish beds in Henderson Inlet, the situation is turning around. In June, the Dept. of Health upgraded 100 acres of commercial shellfish beds in the Inlet. This is in addition to the 240 acres that was upgraded in 2010. Few shellfish areas in the country have seen these kinds of positive results. Through these continued partnerships, our focus is to ensure these areas remain open and that we continue the trend of seeing the re-opening of additional acreage.

Key Project Partners – Thurston Co. Environmental Health, WA Dept. of Health, WA Dept. of Ecology, Henderson Community Shellfish Farm, Pacific Shellfish Institute, Henderson/Nisqually Shellfish Stakeholders Group, South Sound GREEN, Nisqually River Education Project, South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, and numerous local landowners and shellfish growers. All in all approximately 160 individuals worked as part of their jobs to make this project a success.

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Board of Supervisors:

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Dan Cathers, Treasurer
Fred Colvin, Member
Vivian Chambers, Member
David Hall, Member

Find us on Facebook!

More Work To Do

- Secure funding to implement livestock projects currently on waiting list.
- Provide support to new & beginning farmers, helping to keep agriculture viable.
- Expand stormwater management on private property, through the installation of rain gardens.
- Assist agricultural landowners in complying with the local Critical Areas Ordinance.
- Continue focus and partnerships in restoring water quality in area streams and Puget Sound.
- Continue to support salmon recovery efforts through the Lead Entity process.

Underwood Conservation District



State Legislative District #15
Congressional District #3, 4

Other Accomplishments

- Coordinated and lead a major debris and trash clean-up at the mouth of the White Salmon River, in preparation for the removal of Condit Dam by PacifiCorp in fall 2011.
- Sold over 18,000 native trees and shrubs in the annual UCD Plant Sale.
- Distributed over 1,300 trees on Washington Arbor Day.
- Reached 345 citizens through educational workshops.
- Assisted over 30 landowners and land managers with natural resource issues, including livestock management, forest health, and water quality issues via site visits and consultations.
- Funded 9 landowners' Conservation Cost-Share projects, with over \$10,500 in funding from the WA State Conservation Commission Implementation Grant.
- Conducted Wildfire Hazard Home Assessments for over 180 residents District-wide.
- Completed 6 Firewise defensible space projects.
- Conducted mobile chipper program to reduce wildfire fuels for residents in Skamania County, resulting in the treatment of over 100 acres of fuels treatment.

2012 Feature Accomplishments

Mill-A Irrigation Pipe

Resource Challenge – Over twenty landowners in Mill-A on the east end of Skamania County irrigate with water from Little Rock Creek, a tributary to the Little White Salmon River. The previous system had numerous problems including leakage, pipe breaks, slope erosion and undercutting, sediment and debris buildup, leading to multiple natural resource concerns, interruptions in water delivery, and endless maintenance headaches for the ditch users. This group of irrigators needed assistance in making systemic improvements, and applied for cost share from Underwood Conservation District to assist them in placing the upper 900 feet of ditch in pipe.

Project Summary and Results – The project goals were to 1.) Reduce water conveyance losses; 2.) Arrest erosion and accompanying vegetation loss; 3.) Ease the management and maintenance of the irrigation system; and 4.) Deliver adequate water to users, taking some pressure off the overtaxed community domestic water system. The irrigators worked with UCD staff and WSCC Irrigation Efficiencies Specialist, Jack Myrick, to plan the project. UCD's Board of Supervisors reviewed and approved cost share funds from the WA State Conservation Commission for the project. All material and tools had to



Finished pipeline, covered in repurposed carpet to protect the line from sun & storm damage.

be hauled in on foot to the work area, and the work was accomplished with volunteer labor from the ditch users. After many days of hard work clearing storm debris, removing old make-shift materials, and hauling in new material, the final 900 foot pipeline was in place and effectively delivering water to ditch users. The Mill-A irrigators could use their new conveyance system in time for the 2012 irrigation season.

Key Project Partners – Mill-A Community and Irrigation Ditch Users, Washington Conservation Commission, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and UCD staff and Board of Supervisors.



Lead cooperater and ditch user, Lynn Bergeron, pointing out irrigation pipe outlet in Mill-A, WA

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Cyndi Soliz, Vice-Chair
Joyce Eastwick, Auditor
Paul Newell, Member
Kelly Clothier, Member

More Work To Do

- Assist with livestock water quality improvements in the White Salmon River watershed.
- Complete permitting, design and construction of the Cannavina Creek fish passage correction.
- Complete permitting, design and construction of the Buck Creek irrigation diversion project.
- Complete fish passage surveys in the Wind River watershed.
- Pursue funding for Trout Lake Irrigation Efficiency and Fish Screening Project.
- Expand technical assistance and cost-share services to orchards and vineyards.
- Pursue funding to sustain a district-wide Firewise Program.

Wahkiakum Conservation District



State Legislative District #19
Congressional District #3

Other Accomplishments

Middle Valley Skamokawa Projects



Gideon site: pre project



Gideon Site – Post Construction
Elochoman River Stream Restoration



River Avulsion



Contractor Placing Pile at Avulsion

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Community Watershed Projects

Flooding and associated property damage, water quality, salmon recovery, and invasive weeds are shared concerns amongst landowners in the Skamokawa Creek and Elochoman River Watersheds. These resource concerns do not recognize property boundaries and are best addressed at a watershed scale. The principles of Coordinated Resource Management are being employed to continue assisting the Skamokawa Community and to initiate a project in the Elochoman River watershed.



Anchoring wood structure
East Valley Skamokawa – Wilson Cr.
Skamokawa Community WS

Skamokawa Community Watershed: Four landowners were assisted with projects implemented in the watershed during 2011/2012. The projects successfully implemented stream restoration / salmon recovery practices on about 2.25 miles of stream. In addition to the 2 full time equivalent staff positions at the district, each project employed a local contractor (typically a 3 person crew) for an average of 7 working days. The projects also resulted in several goods and materials contracts with multiple local vendors including purchase and delivery of large woody debris, plant materials, fencing materials, and a wide range of hardware employed to anchor log structures.

The projects also This project includes work on the Historic Skamokawa Creek Channel. The District is collaborating with Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce to work through the Army Corps of Engineers 408 Dike Modification review with plans to construct the proposed outlet structure in 2012.

Three grant proposals have been submitted through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board process to continue work in the Skamokawa Watershed including 2 project sites and a watershed wide knotweed project.

Elochoman River Community Watershed: A stream restoration project was constructed in the lower river through a partnership with the local landowner. Surveying has been completed on a funded project that will further assist this landowner and his neighbor with restoration of the lower 3000 feet of channel.

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Wes Raistakka, Vice-Chair
Tony Aegerter, Auditor
Gerry Ledtke, Member
Vacant, Member

More Work To Do

Continue to implement the districts long range and annual plans.

Implement 3 stream restoration projects encompassing 0.8 miles of Skamokawa Creek and 0.6 miles of the Elochoman River

Coordinated the Skamokawa Creek Watershed Knotweed Management Project Proposal when it is funded

Work with at least 2 landowners in the Skamokawa Creek or Elochoman River Watershed Project area to develop and submit project proposals for funding



Other Accomplishments

Bergevin-Williams/Old Lowden Diversion Consolidation & Piping Project

Heavy equipment is used to build gravel push-up dams each year in the Walla Walla River to raise the water level to feed irrigation water into the inefficient Old Lowden and the Bergevin-Williams open canal delivery systems. Even with WA-Dept. of Fish & Wildlife assistance to assure fish passage, rapid changes in flow conditions often resulted in obstructions to fish passage and an imminent threat of "take". To benefit fish, the removal of the two push-up dams/obstructions was made possible through funding by BPA and CTUIR by constructing a new consolidated diversion. The new diversion is located adjacent to the Lowden II diversion at the inflatable dam at River Mile 31 on the Walla Walla River. This project was a win-win-win for fish, farmers and both state & federal agencies. The cost for the diversion structure was \$1.1 million. The total project cost including piping is \$3.1 million.



2012 Feature Accomplishment

Gardena Farms Irrigation District #13 2,800 ft. Piping Project

Resource Challenge – Built in 1892, the Gardena Farms Irrigation District #13's open canal delivery system was an amazing engineering feat with 11.55 miles of upper canal and almost 13 miles in its north and south laterals. In 2004, an independent study showed fully 1/3 of the diverted water was lost to seepage. Piping the delivery system was the selected alternative for improving delivery efficiency and for reducing withdrawal demands on the already over-adjudicated Walla Walla River. Due to the sheer magnitude of piping the delivery system, the project was divided into sections. The first phase – the South Lateral Piping Project – was completed by the WWCCD in 2010. The second phase is the North Lateral Piping Project of which the 2,800 foot project is the initial step.



A 48-foot long section of 66-inch diameter HDPE irrigation pipe gets placed in the trench

Project Summary and Results – The 2,800 foot project is that portion of the delivery system immediately upstream from GFID's 1.44 mile long Pine Creek siphon. To deliver the required 75 cfs of irrigation water, 66-inch diameter High Density Poly Ethylene (HDPE) fusion welded irrigation pipe was required. The pipe came in 48-foot lengths (one pipe per truckload). At the upper end of the 2,800 foot project, there will be an automated belt trash screen to keep debris out of the pipeline. It is designed to be unbolted and moved upstream when future piping of the main canal occurs. Total project cost was \$1.177 million. The project cost of the North Lateral project including the 2,800 foot phase is \$4.15 million.

Key Project Partners – Key partners in the 2,800 ft. Piping Project were:

- Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR)
- Gardena Farms Irrigation District #13 Board of Directors (GFID#13)
- Washington Department of Ecology (WA-DOE)
- Walla Walla County Conservation District (WWCCD)

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Jeff Schulke, Vice-Chair
Ed Chvatal, Secretary
Todd Kimball, Treasurer
Guy McCaw, Member

More Work To Do

Gardena Farms Irrigation District
#13

- North Lateral Piping Project
- Upper Canal Piping Project

Bergevin-Williams/ Old Lowden
Irrigation Delivery System Piping
Project

Stiller Shallow Aquifer Recharge
Project (Phase 2)

Blalock Irrigation District #4 Fish
Screen – (under construction)

Jones Fish Habitat Enhancement
Project

Warden Conservation District



State Legislative District #13
Congressional District #4, 5

Other Accomplishments



Helped with cost share, engineering, & technical assistance for waste transfer improvements at local dairy

Provide cost share for Polyacrylimide (PAM) to minimize soil erosion from irrigation practices.

Provided technical assistance & support for NMP development & revisions for livestock producers within the WCD boundaries.

Partnered with PUD as part of larger IWM program on several farms 1000s of acres.

Partnered with NRCS to improve wildlife habitat on several farms.

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Fencing Project Promotes Clean Water While Eliminating Bank Erosion.

Resource Challenge – In addition to nutrient input & growth of aquatic weeds, unlimited cattle access in riparian areas breaks down streambanks & adds sediment to waterways. This forces the channel to become wider, shallower, & warmer. Those areas stay muddy for longer periods & forage quality is affected due to the “punching” and compaction.

Project Summary and Results – Local farmer John Unruh had wanted to do something about this situation for a long time. It wasn't until he learned about the WCDs cost share program that he realized it was a project he and his family could finally complete.

With financial and technical assistance from the Warden CD exclusion fencing was planned. Both sides of a perennial irrigation drain would be fenced and protected. Mr. Unruhs herd still required some watering access and a protected crossing for the cattle to access another part of the pasture. Two concrete watering troughs with overflow pipes were built above where the cows trampled the slope heavily. A crossing was installed at the lower part of the pasture so the cows could pass back and forth without going directly through the water. The fence was placed well above the break of the slope so that erosion and sloughing would be eliminated. Approximately 1,100' of 4-strand barbed wire was installed. Cows were also fenced out of an adjoining wetland area.

Key Partners - WCD, WA State Conservation Commission. Two temporary jobs created.



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Bob Alison, Vice-Chair
Glenn Burkholder, Member
Boe Claussen, Member
Don Underhill, Member

More Work To Do

- Two Category 3 projects planned pending funding. Both for commercial dairies. \$80K requested.
- Work with farmers & citizen groups & provide cost share for conservation projects.
- Work with farmers & DOE on processing burn permits
- Expand Grant PUD on IWM & energy efficiencies programs.
- NMP development &/or revisions planned with 4 dairies, 1 large feedlot, & 1 pasture based livestock producer.
- Continue consolidation efforts with GCD and MLCD.

Whidbey Island Conservation District



State Legislative District #10
Congressional District #2

Other Accomplishments

WICD provided individual technical assistance to 155 residents and landowners on Whidbey Island in Fiscal Year 2012.

Farm and Forest

- 2 Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans completed (168 Acres, 29 BMPs)
- 8 Farm Conservation Plans completed (131 acres, 78 BMPs)
- 8 Forest Conservation Plans

Current Use Tax Designation Program (RCW 84.34)

- Assisted 25 landowners with plans to comply with current use agriculture & forestry programs

Professional Engineering Services

- Partnered with N.W. Straights Foundation in Cornet Bay Nearshore Restoration project
- Partnered with Whidbey Camano Land Trust in Dugualla Heights Lagoon project

Low Impact Development

- Completed 18 LID plans (52 BMPs)
- Assisted 6 landowners with bluff and shoreline stabilization issues

Outreach and Education

- 6th annual Farm Tour – 18 farms opened to the public, hosting 5,250 attendees
- 6,760 plants sold at annual Native Plant Sale
- 996 attendees at District workshops. 2,927 pieces of educational material handed out at WICD informational booths at 19 partner events

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Forest Stewardship Program

Resource Challenge –

While Island County has approximately 78% forest cover, it is almost entirely in private ownership. A University of Washington study found that 97% of this forested land is rated “high risk” for conversion to other uses. Many small forest owners lack the knowledge necessary to manage their forest resources to meet their goals and achieve a healthy, productive forest. WICD recognized the need to provide affordable, accessible training for small forest owners on Whidbey Island, so that they can make informed decisions about the ongoing management of their land.

Project Summary and Results –

In the winter of 2012, WICD partnered with the WSU Extension Forest Stewardship program to bring the Forest Stewardship Coached Planning course to Whidbey Island for the first time in several years. Whidbey residents learned about forest health, dynamics, and management options, and ultimately to write their own management plans for their properties. The class was filled to capacity, with a total of 39 participants. Collectively, they owned 23 forested parcels totaling 411 acres. A class survey showed that the majority of participants expressed a new appreciation for their forestland, and planned to implement forest stewardship practices based on what they learned in the class, ultimately creating up to three jobs for local foresters. Practices mentioned most were forest thinning, tree planting, and control of invasive weeds. Over half of the class participants prepared a Forest Stewardship Plan for their land. Many stated their intention to enroll their properties in the current use tax program offered by the Island County Assessor's Office.

Key Project Partners – WICD, Whidbey Island small forest landowners, WSU Extension Forest Stewardship program, WSU Island County Extension, Washington Department of Natural Resources. Funding for WICD's forestry program comes from the local assessment and state WSCC funding.



2012 Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Class



WICD worked with a local tree farm to enhance their economic viability

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Wendi Hillborn, Auditor
Tom Fournier, Treasurer
Tim Keohane, Member

More Work to Do

2007 WA State Forestland Database says Island County has 7,913 acres of forestland averaging 9 acres per owner. Continued forestry technical assistance and planning is a priority to retain the water quality and critical areas protection provided by forest cover while promoting the economic benefit of forest lands.

A similar scenario exists with agricultural land where there are more farmers managing smaller tracts of land, requiring help creating and retaining economic viability while implementing conservation practices.

Whidbey Island's "Sole Source Aquifer" status and proximity to Puget Sound continues to drive the importance of alternative stormwater practices (Low Impact Development – LID) requiring WICD's planning, engineering and design assistance.

Whatcom Conservation District



State Legislative District #39, 40, 42
Congressional District #2

Other Accomplishments

- Landowners/Operators helped: 1,148
- Farm Conservation Plans developed: 9
- Dairy Nutrient Management Plans completed/updated: 12
- Total Best Management Practices (BMPs) installed: 23
- Acres Improved by BMPs: 2,291
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
 - Plans completed: 33
 - Stream feet planted: 44,929
 - Stream feet fenced: 14,256
 - Native plants installed: 47,150
 - Acres planted: 113.4
 - Projects maintained: 98
 - Acres maintained: 474
- Other riparian restoration projects implemented: 16
 - Stream feet planted: 36,960
 - Acres Enhanced: 22
 - Native plants installed: 30,858



Lake Terrell Dam was replaced with a reinforced concrete weir placed into the existing spillway structure. The stream channel was elevated to the weir level. Migrating salmon can now access the lake and upstream habitat.

(post-construction)

2012 Feature Accomplishments

Terrell Creek Dam Project-

Resource Challenge – Terrell Creek is a dam regulated watershed located in northwest Whatcom County that historically produced at least four species of salmon and trout (Coho, Chum, Steelhead, Cutthroat). Terrell Creek is unique because it has largely intact riparian areas, good clean spawning gravels and large areas of wetlands



Lake Terrell Dam (before)

nourishing the upper watershed. However salmon in Terrell Creek have been adversely affected by a 7' high dam constructed in the 1950s that not only blocks fish passage but also impounds water from surrounding wetlands that would otherwise provide summer flow in the stream. Lake Terrell Dam was constructed to enlarge a vast wetland complex to increase sport fishing and waterfowl hunting. Despite the challenges, populations of Coho Salmon remain in the stream. Chum Salmon have been released for the last few years.

Project Summary and Results – After garnering feedback and approval from stakeholders, the Whatcom Conservation District received funding to resolve impacts on Terrell Creek. The Lake Terrell Dam was replaced with a reinforced concrete weir placed into the existing spillway structure. The top of the weir consists of shallow sloping shoulders that drop to a central low-flow triangular weir. The elevation of the central low-flow weir crest is lower than the original dam resulting in a minimum dry season flow of 1.1 cubic feet per second. The weir design will "meter" out water slowly through the dry summer months ensuring that 27,350 linear feet of Terrell Creek below the dam contains minimum flows needed to support juvenile salmon.

Following installation of the weir, the stream channel below was elevated to the weir level by adding 2,500 tons of compacted fill and 500 tons of spawning gravels. Pools or riffles were created and large woody debris was placed in the channel. Migrating salmon can now swim over the dam without any impairment and have access to 17,750 linear feet of upstream habitat including 7,400 linear feet of stream with quality spawning gravels and good riparian cover. Upstream riparian areas were also restored by planting 5.6 acres along 4,340 linear feet of stream bank with native tree and shrub buffers.

WCD paid for 4, and partners paid for 60 individuals to complete this project.

Key Project Partners – National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, British Petroleum, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Environmental Protection Agency

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Terry Lenssen, Vice-Chair
Larry Davis, Secretary/Treasurer
Larry Helm, Member
Richard Yoder, Member
Jayne Uerling, Associate Supervisor

More Work To Do

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- 29 CREP participants approved for installation in spring 2013

Livestock

- Continue technical assistance to 120 dairies and hundreds of small farms.



As a change from our usual dairy farm, technical services were provided to this small dromedary and Bactrian camel farm.

Whitman Conservation District



State Legislative District #9
Congressional District #5

Other Accomplishments

District Cost-Share Program.

Resource Challenge – Consisting of approx. 424,065 and 214 individual producers, Whitman Conservation District specifically focuses on the natural resources diversity found within its boundaries: 10" – 21" rainfall; variations in tillage operations from traditional 2-year crop rotation with tillage to a 3-year crop rotation with no tillage; rangeland to pasture grazing and management. Our District Cost-Share Program is as diverse as the resources, providing opportunities for all constituents to participate.

This year we assisted 79 producers and a total of 8,322 acres, including stream protection, fencing, and the planting of 250 trees/shrubs.

Annual Public Input Meeting

The Board of Supervisors goal: Increase Public Awareness and Input into District Activities.

Hosted 2012 Annual Plant Sale

Assisted 35 customers and selling over 560 plants.

Hosted 2012 5th Grade

Conversation Planting 250 trees & shrubs

2012 Feature Accomplishment

Water Quality Testing Workshop

On May 14, 2012 Whitman CD (in cooperation with Palouse CD, Pink Creek CD, and Palouse Rock Lake CD and sponsored by Whitman Co. Farm Bureau, Whitman Co. Cattlemen's Assoc., and Whitman Co. Association of Wheat Growers) hosted a workshop to learn how to water sample correctly and interpret the results in order to make informed management decisions regarding the health of their stream water. The information gathered from this testing will determine the levels of fecal coliform in the surface water and can possibly identify the source instead of assuming it comes from livestock.

The class, attended by 19, was conducted by Simon Smith, a water quality researcher from WorldThree.



Water Quality Workshop



Before



After

Livestock Hard Crossing

Whitman CD assisted and provided cost-share to a producer whose cattle were crossing the Little Penawawa Creek-Canyon causing potential damage to the creek and pollutant drainage into the Snake River. Windstorms and runoffs prevented planting trees/shrubs or fencing as an option so it was determined that a hard crossing was the appropriate solution. The project was engineered by NRCS and consisted of a 16' X 100' crossing with underlining fabric, pit run, and top course gravel.

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Board of Supervisors:

Walter Riley, Chair
Tom Kammerzell, Vice-Chair
Cory Aeschliman, Secretary
Jan Turney, Auditor
Dave Lange, Member

More Work To Do

The Board of Supervisors will continue to:

- seek constituent input for District Direction
- promote the current District Programs
- seek additional appropriate funding opportunities
- pursue alternative energy resources
- seek additional partnerships to further on-the-ground implementation activities

COMMISSION STAFF



Mark Clark, Executive Director

Mark has been the Executive Director since December, 2002, and began at the Commission in 1999. He is responsible for the operations and management of the agency and staff and reports to the 10-member commission.



Debbie Becker, Administrative Services Manager

Debbie has been with SCC since 2000 and is currently responsible for management of agency budget and financial allocations to conservation districts and leads the team of contract and administrative staff.



Ray Ledgerwood, Manager, District Services

Ray was employed with SCC from 1979 to 1990, and returned in 2003. Ray manages the statewide service delivery for CD operations through Regional Managers employed across the State. He also coordinates work with major partners and provides facilitation expertise.



Ron Shultz, Policy & Intergovernmental Relations

Ron joined SCC in 2007 and serves as Policy Director for the Commission. Ron represents the agency in a variety of policy forums including the Natural Resources Subcabinet, Puget Sound State Caucus, and the Biodiversity Council.

COMMISSION STAFF



Mary Bilderback

Fiscal Analyst/Grant Specialist



Larry Brewer

Eastern Regional Manager



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Courtney Spradling

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Stu Trefry

NW Regional Manager

ACRONYMS

BMP	Best Management Practice	RCO	Recreation and Conservation Office
BPA	Bonneville Power Administration	RCW	Revised Code of Washington
CREP	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program	SCC	State Conservation Commission
CRM	Coordinated Resource Management	SRFB	Salmon Recovery Funding Board
CWMA	Cooperative Weed Management Area	TA	Technical Assistance
DFW	(WDFW) Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife	TAG	Technical Advisory Group
DNR	(WDNR) Washington Department of Natural Resources	TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
DOA	(WDOA) Washington Department of Agriculture	USDA	US Department of Agriculture
DOE	(WDOE) Washington Department of Ecology	USFS	US Forest Service
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program (NRCS program)	USFW	US Fish and Wildlife
EPA	U. S. Environmental Protection Agency	USGS	US Geological Services
FFFPP	Family Forest Fish Passage Projects	WACD	Washington Association of Conservation Districts
FSA	USDA Farm Services Agency	WADE	Washington Association of District Employees
LID	Low Impact Development	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program
LWD	Large Woody Debris	WQ	Water Quality
IWM	Irrigation Water Management	WSU	Washington State University
NFWF	National Fish & Wildlife Foundation	WRIA	Water Resource Inventory Area
NRCS	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service		
OFP	Office of Farmland Preservation		

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Washington State Conservation Commission

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Washington State's 47 Conservation Districts

Adams	Pacific
Asotin	Palouse
Benton	Palouse-Rock Lake
Cascadia	Pend Oreille
Central Klickitat	Pierce
Clallam	Pine Creek
Clark	Pomeroy
Columbia	San Juan
Cowlitz	Skagit
Eastern Klickitat	Snohomish
Ferry	South Douglas
Foster Creek	South Yakima
Franklin	Spokane
Grant	Stevens
Grays Harbor	Thurston
Jefferson	Underwood
King	Wahkiakum
Kitsap	Walla Walla
Kittitas	Warden
Lewis	Whatcom
Lincoln	Whidbey Island
Mason	Whitman
Moses Lake	
North Yakima	
Okanogan	





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